THE

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Agriculture is the most healthful, the most useful, and the most noble employment of Man.—*Washington.*

VOL. III. NEW YORK, OCTOBER, 1844. NO. X.

A. B. Allen, Editor. Saxton & Miles, Publishers, 205 Broadway.

SAVING SEEDS.

October is the month in which most of the garden seeds, and some of those of the field crops ripen; due attention, therefore, must be paid to gathering and preserving them. We think there is too often great carelessness displayed in selecting for planting; the husbandman does not bear in mind the oft-repeated adage that *like produces like*, but seems to think that anything will do. With the unreflecting, *a seed is a seed* whether good or bad; and strange to say, that many either consume or sell the *good* and reserve the *bad* for planting, thinking this the best economy! Let such be assured, that by sowing bad or indifferent seed, they must expect a poor crop in return: we know but one exception to this general rule, and this is by no means fully proved to our mind—we allude to small, unripe potatoes, which a late writer in England contends produce the best crops, especially where disease is to be apprehended. The great improvements in seed and root crops, as well as domestic animals, have been made by carefully choosing the best for propagation, aided, of course, by a superior system of feed and culture. It behooves the farmer, therefore, to bear these facts steadily in mind, and in all cases use sound and discriminating judgment in selecting such seeds and roots as will be certain to produce the best and most abundant crops.

MAKING VINEGAR.

So far as our observation and information extend, this is one of the most abundant fruit years that we have had for a long time, and as is often the case, it may be followed by an untoward season, in which the greater part of the fruit may be cut off. Making cider for drink is happily nearly abandoned throughout the country, but for vinegar, we think that it is quite too much neglected; the consequence is, that under the name of vinegar, we have the vilest trash and compounds which can be conceived of, palmed upon the community for this highly necessary preservative and agreeable condiment. Vinegar from well made, unadulterated apple cider, is not only the cleanest and purest in our judgment which is manufactured, but it is also more highly prized and more surely depended upon by the good housewife. Let every farmer then reserve a sufficient store of cider for it the present season. He should always have a two years' stock on hand, and in abundant fruit seasons he ought to provide for three years ahead, as it is easily kept and subject to considerable fluctuation in price, of which he will then be able to take

advantage in selling when the market affords him a good profit.

Vinegar from pure good cider is made in the easiest possible manner, as the latter substance will change into it with little trouble, and keep well even in a cool cellar. Some prefer an open shed for making this change. Exposed to the sun any great length of time the casks will leak more or less; some evaporation also takes place, and the consequence is, considerable loss. After the cider has well worked, the liquor should be partly drawn off, leaving the casks only about two thirds filled. For the purpose of admitting the air, the bunghole must still be kept open, and to prevent insects or vermin of any kind getting in, a square piece of fine wire gauze, or if that is not at hand, a strong piece of linen cloth should be nailed over it. To hasten the souring or rather ripening of vinegar, shake it frequently, and if necessary, place a cask of it for a short time in the sun. In this case, we have generally used a long neck bottle to stop the bung-hole instead of gauze. The neck is thrust into the cask, leaving the large part of the bottle outside. This is pretty effectual in keeping out the vermin, and also the rain, which the gauze will not, and we think that the heat drawn from the sun by the bottle hastens the ripening of the vinegar.

INCUBATION.

In our August No. we promised to follow up the article on the "Egg Hatcher," by another, derived entirely from the pamphlet of Mr. Mickles, on the progress of incubation in the egg of the common fowl. All these changes we had the pleasure of examining, and they may be seen any day at 205 Broadway at the trifling cost of a shilling. We earnestly recommend our readers to become a witness of these curious workings of nature.

In an impregnated egg, previous to the commencement of incubation, a small spot is discernible upon the yolk, composed apparently of a membraneous sac or bag, containing a fluid matter, in which swims the embryo of the future chick, and seemingly connected with other vesicles around it.

1st Day. In a few hours after exposure to the proper temperature, the microscope discovers that a humid matter has formed within the limits of the embryo. At the expiration of twelve or fourteen hours, this matter bears some resemblance to the shape of a little head; a number of new vesicles also successively appear, foreshadowing the different parts of the future body of the chick; those first formed, and most easily distinguished, may afterward be recognised as assuming the shape of the vertebral bones of the back.

2d Day. The eyes begin to make their appearance about the 30th hour, and additional vessels, closely joined together, indicate the situation of the navel. The brain and spinal marrow, rudiments of the wings, and principal muscles, become observable. The formation of the head is also evidently proceeding.

3d Day. The beating of the heart is perceptible, although no blood is visible; after a few hours, however, two vesicles, containing blood, make their appearance. One forming the left ventricle, the other the great artery. The auricle of the heart is next seen, and, in the whole, pulsation is evident.

4th Day. The wings now assume a more defined shape, and the increased size of the head renders the globules containing the brain, the beak and the front and hind part of the head, distinctly visible.

5th Day. The liver makes its appearance, and both auricles, now plainly seen, approach nearer the heart than before. That splendid phenomenon, the circulation of the blood, is now evident.

6th Day. The lungs and stomach are distinguishable, and the full gush of blood from the heart is distinctly apparent.

7th Day. The intestines, veins, and upper mandible become visible, and the brain begins to assume a distinct form.

8th Day. The beak for the first time opens, and the formation of flesh upon the breast commences.

9th Day. The deposition of matter forming the ribs takes place, and the gall bladder is perceptible.

10th Day. The bile is distinguishable by its green color, and the first voluntary motion of the body of the chick is seen, if separated from its integuments.

11th Day. The matter forming the skull now becomes cartilaginous, and the protrusion of feathers may be noticed.

12th Day. The orbits of sight are apparent, and the ribs are perfected.

13th Day. The spleen gradually approaches to its proper position in the stomach.

14th Day. The lungs become enclosed within the breast.

15th, 16th, and 17th Days. During these days, the infinity of phenomena in this wonderful piece of vital mechanism elaborate it into more perfect form, and it presents an appearance closely approaching the mature state. The yolk of the egg, however, from which it derives its nourishment, is still outside the body.

18th Day. On the eighteenth day, the outward and audible sign of developed life is apparent, by the faint piping of the chick being, for the first time, heard.

19th, 20th, and 21st Days. Continually increasing in size and strength, the remainder of the yolk gradually becomes enclosed within its body; then, with uncommon power, for so small and frail a being, it liberates itself from its prison in a peculiar and curious manner, by repeated efforts made with its bill, seconded by muscular exertion with its limbs, and emerges into a new existence.

The position of the chicken in the shell, is such as to occupy the least possible space. The head, which is large and heavy in proportion to the rest of the body, is placed in front of the abdomen, with its beak under the right wing; the feet are gathered up like a bird trussed for the spit, yet in this singular manner, and apparently uncomfortable position, it is by no means cramped or confined, but performs all the necessary motions and efforts required for its liberation, with the most

perfect ease, and that consummate skill which instinct renders almost infallible.

The chicken, at the time it breaks the shell, is *heavier* than the whole egg was at first.

An egg will not hatch *in vacuo*.

The infinite wisdom of the Great Architect of the animal frame is remarkably manifested in its providing the chick with a sharp and hard substance on the tip of the bill, by means of which it is enabled to fracture the shell to liberate itself from its imprisonment. Its own bill is too soft to enable it to break the shell therewith, and in two days or less this hard and pointed substance disappears, the young bird no longer requiring to use it.

Equally extraordinary and wonderful is the fact that the germ of the chick is provided with the ability to keep itself always on the top of the yolk of the egg, to the end that it may take the heat from the parent bird when setting, to produce incubation.

HONEY DEW.

"At a late meeting of the Farmers' Club at New York, the subject under consideration being 'Insects injurious to Vegetation,' the Chairman, Gen. Johnson of Long Island, is reported to have said, 'It is my opinion that the dew (called by the Dutch, honey dew) which *always* falls in the latter part of June, *always* kills off most insects; they *uniformly* disappear after it has fallen.' Now, since I have embraced the new doctrine of cause and effect in the matter of blight and its consequences, I am led to consider the honey-dew merely the extravasated juices of the plant or tree, which, having been for a time in a stagnant and putrid state occasioned by unfriendly atmospherical influence, are at length thrown off by a new circulation of the sap; the *effect* being, the deprivation of food to the insect tribe, which are created for the purpose of feeding on putricity; and hence the *cause* of their *uniform disappearance*."

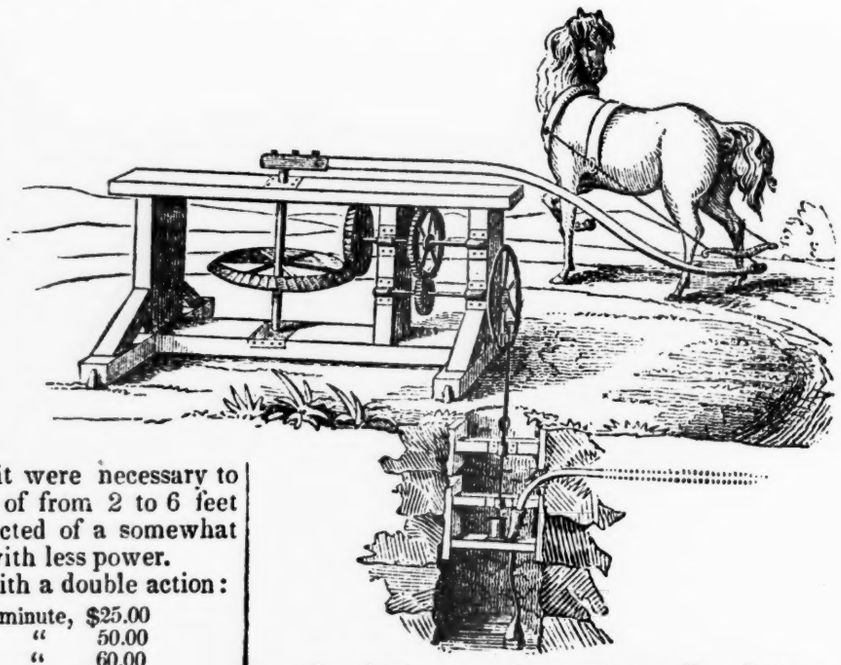
The above is a communication addressed by Mr. W. Fay to the Boston Cultivator. We have consulted Mr. Browne, who is well versed in matters of this kind, and he regards honey-dew, in most cases, as the exudation of plant-lice (*Aphides*). He says, however, that there are saccharine exudations from the leaves of plants and trees, which are not distinguished by the name of honey-dew, as the labdanum from the *cistis creticus*, and the manna which exudes from the ash of Italy and the larch of France. There are also analogous productions observable on plants after very dry weather, which Mr. Murray, in his Treatise on Atmospheric Electricity, ascribes to an electric change in the air. The latter gentleman states that the honey-dew was found on plants that were entirely free from plant-lice, and so copious was this substance, that had their number been a hundred fold, they could not certainly have been the source of the supply. He supposed that he set the question at rest by washing a leaf and wiping it dry with a sponge, immediately after which, he observed through a lens, that excreted globules were apparent; but in this experiment might not the leaf have been previously wounded, perhaps, by the beak of a plant-louse, and hence the exudation of sap instead of honey-dew? And may not the circumstance of his finding the honey-dew on leaves where there were no plant-lice, be accounted for on the principle that these insects had left, as they always do, the parts covered with their exudations? Mr. Sauvages, in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Montpellier, remarks that aphides (plant-lice) are careful to eject the honey-dew to a distance from the place where they may be feeding. And Mr. Browne cites an instance of a plant of the Chinese Chrysanthemum, the young shoots of which swarmed with aphides, and that the leaves below were covered with honey-dew. The experiment was tried, of wiping it off from a leaf, and no more was formed when it was protected by a piece of paper from the aphides above. Besides, the paper became sprinkled with honey-dew in a few hours, and by means of a lens, the aphides were actually seen to eject their fluid.

Dr. Harris, in his Report on the Insects of Massachusetts, describes the habits of these insects as follows: "Plant-lice seem to love society, and often herd together in dense masses, each one remaining fixed to the plant by means of its long tubular beak; and they rarely change their places till they have exhausted the part first attacked. The attitudes and manners of these little creatures are exceedingly amusing. When disturbed, like restiff horses they begin to kick and sprawl in the most ludicrous manner. They may be seen, at times, suspended by their beaks alone, and throwing up their legs as if in a high frolic, but too much engaged in sucking to withdraw their beaks. As they take in great quantities of sap, they would soon become gorged if they did not get rid of the superabundant fluid through the two little tubes or pores in the extremities of their bodies. When one of them gets running over full, it seems to communicate its uneasy sensations, by a kind of animal magnetism, to the whole flock, upon which they all, with one accord, jerk upward their bodies, and eject a shower of the honeyed fluid."

The fecundity of aphides is almost incalculable. Reaumur supposed that in one year there may be twenty generations, and he proved by experiment that one of these insects may be the parent of 5,904,900,000 descendents during its life! Latreille says one female, during the summer months, usuually produces about 25 a day; and more than 1,000 have been counted on a single leaf of a hop.

In regard to the remarks made by General Johnson, as quoted above, we should attribute the disappearance of most lepidopterous insects in the latter part of June, or beginning of July, to their passing from the larva or caterpillar to the pupa or chrysalis state. The honey-dew is in no way regarded as poisonous, but, on the contrary, it is devoured with eagerness by ants, bees, and other insects; and in the forests of Lithuania this substance and linden flowers afford the finest honey in the world. The above remarks are made, hoping that they will be the means of eliciting further information on this subject from those who are much more capable than ourselves of elucidating it.

LIFT AND FORCING PUMPS.—Fig. 57.



We have been so frequently solicited for information about pumps, and the application of horse power to them, that we give the annexed cut (the only one at our command) as an illustration. We presume the same horse power which is used to propel threshing machines, with slight alterations, may be made to answer for pumping. Wind or water power would be preferred, if it can be obtained at a reasonable cost. Below we annex the prices that pumps cost here. If it were necessary to raise the water to a height of from 2 to 6 feet only, pumps may be constructed of a somewhat different form, and to work with less power.

Lift and Forcing Pumps, with a double action:

2½	inches	raise	20	gals.	per minute,	$25.00
4	"	"	50	"	"	50.00
5	"	"	80	"	"	60.00
6	"	"	150	"	"	100.00
11	"	"	400	"	"	200.00

Iron Lift Pumps, for Cisterns, single rods, $6; double rods, - - - - - - - - $6.50

Horse Powers, for small Pumps, complete for one horse, - - - - - - - - 75.00

" " " large " for one horse, 100.00

" " " " " for two horses 150.00

MARL.

We are glad to see that the attention of the south is turning to the inestimable treasures of marl found in such immense quantities throughout this region. The Agricultural Society of Black Oak, in St. John's Parish, S. C., states in their report, that last year, twenty-five plantations marled 1,113 acres of their land. This information we derive from the Southern Agriculturist (an excellent publication by the way), which also adds, that all experiments with marl which have been properly conducted, have resulted very beneficially, especially to the corn and cotton crops. To give our readers an idea of the high value of this substance, Mr. Ruffin asserts in his report of the survey of South Carolina, that the proportion of pure carbonate of lime in much the larger number of exposures of marl beds varies from 55 to 85 per cent., and that more of them rise above 90 than fall below 50 per cent.!

BUCKWHEAT.

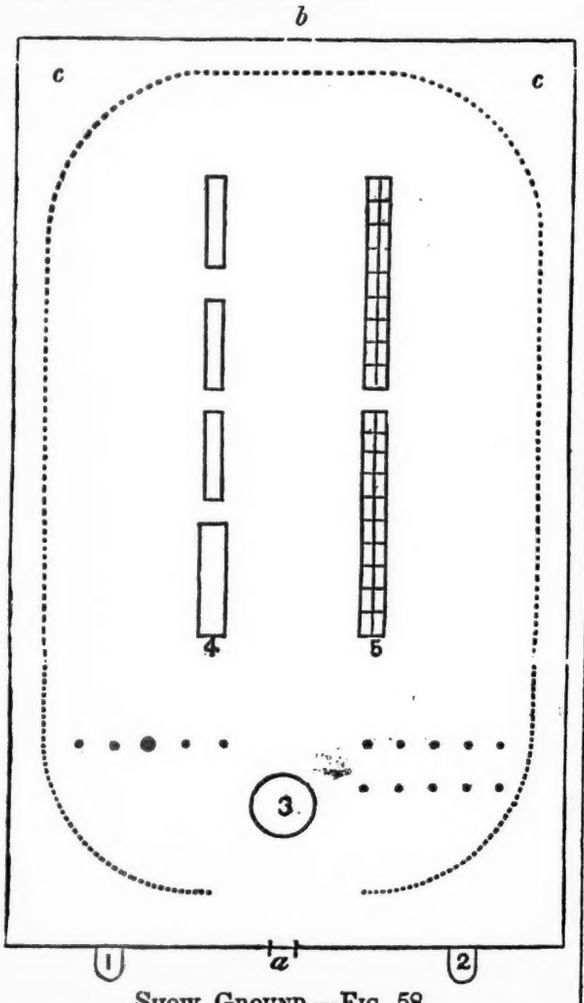
Great loss frequently ensues to the farmer in consequence of letting his buckwheat stand too long before cutting, especially if it happen to be struck with a severe frost. We well recollect one season having lost at least a third of our crop by the shelling of the grain during the process of harvesting; whereas, had we cut it one week sooner, we should have got quite as large a yield and been able to save all the seed. By cutting early, that is, as soon as the grain is slightly hardened, we also obtain a much superior quality of straw, of the value of which for feeding stock and the best method of stacking, we gave some account at page 193 of Vol. II. Mr. Baker, of New Jersey, made an excellent experiment last year in cutting buckwheat very early, for which we must refer the reader to the same volume as above, page 305. After cutting, he raked it up and bound it in bunches, and then let it stand to dry the straw and mature the grain, a full fortnight in the field previous to housing. Mr. B. gave us samples of the buckwheat thus cut and cured, which we still keep: they are among the finest specimens of this grain that we have ever seen. Such experiments are highly to be commended, and we wish our farmers would get more into the habit of making and recording them; they would thus confer not only a benefit on themselves, but on all who ever read or hear of an agricultural journal.

THE COMING WINTER.

We hear it foretold by our veteran farmers that the coming winter will be a tolerably severe one. They say they have never seen a season of great abundance, especially in fruit, that was not followed by a hard winter; the summer also has been rather wet than otherwise, and this may be set down as another sign for a cold winter. But be this all as it may, the farmer should provide well for the season of snow and frost, by saving all his straw; carefully curing and housing or stacking his corn stalks; and immediately harvesting and pitting any roots which may be left in the field. Straw and cornstalks, with a little bran or a few roots, will carry stock through the winter, if of a good breed, as well as the best of hay. Save all these, for there is nothing like having a little too much of everything on hand; no suffering comes from this cause, but from carelessness, or being too penurious to provide for the comfort and good condition of our domestic animals.

FOURTH ANNUAL SHOW
OF THE
NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This great event came off at Poughkeepsie on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 17th, 18th, and 19th of September; and was more numerously attended, and realized a much larger amount of funds to the Society, than any exhibition yet held. The show-ground enclosed about nine acres, half a mile southeast of the village, on a broad, smooth, rolling height of green sward, commanding one of the most magnificent views of mountain, river, hill, and dale, and broad cultivated plains, dotted with villages and farmeries, and clumps of shady forests, that can be found upon the banks of the noble Hudson.



Show Ground.—Fig. 58.

We visited the ground three days previous to the commencement of the show, and found everything already prepared for it, by the indefatigable Committee of Arrangements of the citizens of Poughkeepsie, aided by the active exertions of Dr. Beekman, the President, and Mr. Henry O'Reilly, Secretary of the Society, and James S. Wadsworth, Esq. of Geneseo, who from having been President for the two preceding years, was enabled by his experience to be of great service in the general management and direction of affairs.

The above is not an exact sketch of the form of the show-ground, it being angling at the four corners, and narrower at one end than the other; but the details are pretty correct, and thus formed, gives the reader a better idea of the whole arrangement. The square lines represent a close board fence 9 feet high, enclosing an area about 850 ft. long by 500 ft. broad; the dotted lines, a post and open board fence about 4 feet high, to which the cattle and horses were fastened, leaving between that and the close fence, a space of 35 feet wide for the promenade of carriages; *a*, carriage entrance gate, at the right and left of which were several small gates for visiters on foot; *b*, entrance gate for the stock; 1, General Committee room; 2, ticket office; 3, a large tent about 240 feet in circumference, with a staging at one end, and seats like an amphitheatre all around, for the accommodation of speakers before the society and the reading of Committee reports; the dots at the right and left were small tents for the use of different Committees to hold consultations and make out reports—the centre dot of the five at the left, a large marquee, pitched expressly for the accommodation of editors, and reporters, and furnished with stationery and refreshments; 4, Floral Hall, with board sides and roof, 9 ft. posts, 36 ft. wide by 114 ft. long, with a broad roof-shaped stand running through the centre, for fruits and flowers—the second in rear, Vegetable Hall, 25 by 100 ft. for fruits and vegetables—the third, Manufacturers' Hall, 25 by 100 ft. for domestic fabrics—the fourth, Farmers' Hall, for agricultural implements; 5, rows of pens for sheep, swine, and poultry. In addition to the above, there were well furnished refectories for the refreshment of visiters inside, these were named after different counties in the state; also two pumps of excellent water at *c*, *c*, the right and left corners of the show-ground, furnished with tin cups, attached by small chains, for public drinking, and strong iron bound buckets for the stock. As the weather was insufferably hot and dry, the pumps proved a most grateful accommodation to the visiters, and were constantly surrounded by them to quench their parched thirst. No food was provided inside for the stock, and considering that the sheep, swine, and some of the other animals, could not well leave the ground at night, and their owners being obliged to stand by and guard them, they suffered greatly from hunger during the show. All other arrangements on the ground which fell under our observation were admirable, quite as good as those we found at the show of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and reflect high credit on all concerned in making them.

Trial of Plows.—Tuesday the 17th, the exhibition opened by a trial of a small number of plows, on the farm of Mr. Warrall, half a mile east of the show-ground, and did not conclude till the next day. The Delano plow was awarded the first premium. It turned a 6 by 12 inch furrow, with a draught of 300 lbs. There was little to interest the visiter during this day, save the continued arrival of people and stock in town, and articles for exhibition at the different Halls at the show-ground.

Rush to the Show-Ground.—Wednesday the 18th, the sun had scarcely risen from his fiery

furnace bed, and began to send forth his scorching tropical rays, than the gates of the show-ground were thrown open, and the front entrances immediately thronged with people of both sexes in carriages, on horseback, and on foot—met by a continued cavalcade rushing in at the opposite end—of horses wildly prancing and neighing a loud alto; cattle pawing up the dust and bellowing forth a deep bass; commingled with the shouting of their keepers—the bleating of sheep—the grunting of swine—and the cackling of poultry, in strains sufficiently varied to fill up all the harmony that the amateurs of such shows could desire, from a united biped and quadruped choir. By 10 o'clock, the spacious area of the show-ground was well filled, and then began the duties of the judges, and now we commenced our rounds in earnest.

Horses.—The show was pretty good, though not as large as we had anticipated, considering the great number of fine animals in the southern counties of New York. The entries were 33 stallions, 6 pairs of match horses, and 9 breeding mares and colts, making 54 head. Among the stallions were some very fine thorough-breds, which to our great regret, by the rules of the Society, were not allowed any premiums; but this mistake will be rectified another year. Among them we quite admired Stafford, from Westchester Co., with his beautiful Arabian-like head, and splendid, fiery action; Henry, exhibited by Mr. Long of Washington Co.; Eclipse, by Mr. Ludlow of Claverack; and a fine blood colt of Mr. Verplank, from Fishkill. The horses of all work, which were alone eligible for premiums, were a reputable lot; and in addition to these, were Samson a very large English cart horse imported by Messrs. Corning and Sotham of Albany; another of the same breed shown by Mr. Pettit of Onondago; and a cross of the blood horse and Norman belonging to Mr. Bement.

Jacks and Jennies, there were none on the ground. If our own state would not or could not bring forward some of the long-eared brayers, we regret that Dr. Pool, and others from neighboring states, had not come out with a show of these useful animals.

Mules.—We saw only one pair, and fine noble ones they were too, belonging to Mr. Colman of the Astor house. He keeps them on his farm at Poughkeepsie, and finds them kind in harness, and most excellent workers—being stout, quick, and enduring.

Cattle.—Of neat stock, there were 30 bulls, 33 cows, 7 calves, 27 yoke of working oxen, and 22 fat cattle, making 146 head. Considering that many of the larger breeders reside at a distance of several hundred miles from Poughkeepsie, and did not exhibit a single animal from their herds, the show of cattle was much better than we had anticipated. There were some magnificent Durhams present. Mr. Vail's Meteor can not be beaten in the state; and though Mr. Sheaf's beautiful young cow, Grace, only stood third on the premium list, yet we know not her superior in the country. Messrs. Corning and Sotham of Albany, exhibited a splendid lot of 11 Herefords. The cows were really superb, and as their owners claim good milking qualities for them, the Short-Horn men must take care, or before they are aware of it, they will yet meet with powerful rivals from this quarter. Of Devons there were only 3 on the ground, at which paucity of numbers of this highly prized breed, we were absolutely astonished. We doubt whether the cow which took the first prize was a thorough-bred, as she had large black spots on her muzzle, and other marks which betrayed want of purity of blood. The beautiful cow and calf exhibited from Black Rock, and now owned by Roswell W. Colt, Esq. of Paterson, New Jersey, were models of their kind. Ayrshires we noticed a goodly number; some directly imported from Scotland by Scotchmen, who spoke highly of their merits as dairy beasts.

Sheep.—We did not count them, but understood there were 90 head present; comprising a goodly show of Saxons, Merinos, Long-Wools, and South Downs. We particularly admired a splendid Merino buck belonging to Mr. Sanford of Vermont, and some others present which we have not space to mention.

Swine.—The grunters we suppose might have mustered some 40 strong. According to our notion the Berkshires were far superior; next the Leicesters and other white hogs; then a pretty cross of Mr. Bement's between the Neapolitans and Chinese; and last, though not least, a very large, fat, coarse animal, whose breed if he had any we did not learn.

Poultry.—When we consider the value of poultry in the United States, we can not express our astonishment that so few birds of any kind were exhibited. Mr. Bement of Albany was about the only person who showed anything in this line, and he confined himself to a few curious hens, and some beautiful China geese of a peculiar small breed.

Farm Implements.—Though a good many of one kind and another were on the ground, still it was a meager display to what New York ought to make, more especially in plows. We saw nothing especially new, or which has not been spoken of previously in this paper.

Flowers.—After disposing of most of the other things we now bent our eager steps to Floral Hall, where we found such an immense crowd, especially of ladies, continually pouring into the wide promenade of 272 feet length, embracing both sides of the stand, that we found it quite impossible to see things to any advantage. As we hate crowds, except at a distance, we wish hereafter, at least for our comfort, that Mr. Walsh would not make himself quite so popular in this department; or if he will persist in so doing, let him enlarge the premises over which he exercises so tasteful a display. Under his direction, assisted by the fair ladies of Poughkeepsie, up rose pyramids, bouquets, altars, and walls of flowers of every imaginable hue, tastefully grouped, and wreathed, and festooned over the centre stand like some fairy scene.

Fruits—Here we are happy to say was the richest and most varied display yet made at any of the State Society's shows. Messrs. C. & A. J. Downing exhibited from their Highland gardens, 170 different kinds of fruit; Mr. Reid of this city a superb collection of pears; Messrs. Prince & Co.

of Flushing, 120 varieties of apples, and 55 of pears; Mr. J. J. Thomas of Macedon, a large collection of apples; James G. King, Esq. of Highwood, a great variety of the choicest kind of pears; Mr. Donaldson of Blithewood, superb clusters of three different kinds of grapes; Mr. Pell of Pelham, 67 varieties of apples, clusters of grapes, and other fruits. In addition to these, quite a number of gentlemen exhibited choice collections, but we could not learn their names, or the varieties shown.

Vegetables and Seeds.—The exhibition of these was quite equal to the fruits, but we have not space to dwell upon them. Among other things, we noticed a Patagonian gourd 5 ft. 8 in. long; squash weighing 126, 152, and 201 lbs.; cabbages of 30 lbs. weight; corn-stalks 17 feet high; grains and seeds, 35 varieties of wheat from Gen. Harmon; very fine wheat flour, and various other things too numerous to mention. At the right of this hall was stationed an enormous car from Hyde Park, under the care of Messrs. Fuller and Allen, drawn by 10 superb yoke of cattle, and loaded with fruits and vegetables of great variety, and beautifully decorated with cornstalk pillars and festoons of evergreens and flowers. This was a superb affair, got up with great taste, and worthy to grace a conqueror at a Roman triumph. It attracted more attention than anything else upon the ground. A charming group of ladies were within the car all day, doing the honors thereof with equal grace and hospitality. We had half a mind several times in passing, to solicit the privilege of mounting to its festooned bower; but fearing we might not soon be equally able to leave it again, at least through any will of ours, we think we did wisely to forbear.

Domestic Fabrics.—The Manufacturers' hall was scarcely less crowded than that of the Floral, for there was tastefully displayed all that the skill and elegance of fair fingers can so ingeniously shape and array. As we looked forth upon this handiwork, we were no less delighted than amazed. Only think, gentle reader, of a splendid Mosaic chair; of a quilt containing 2,676 pieces, another 3,202, another 4,400, and still another 6,834! We wish we had them for bedspreads, indeed we do. Imagine a thousand other curious things that a lady's fancy only can design, and her cunning fingers execute, and one will then have but an indefinite idea of what was displayed here. We noticed a good exhibition of cocoons and silk. The manufacturers in different parts of the country made a superb show, 95 entries in all, some of which were most magnificent. Messrs. Samuel Lawrence and Co. of Lowell, showed from their Middlesex factory, 62 pieces of all sorts of woollen goods.

Dairy Products.—Here we were again greatly disappointed at the small number of entries, though they seemed very good of their kind. Of cheese, one may any day see twenty times as good an exhibition at the Erie, and several other county shows in the State. We hope our dairymen will make a better turn out another year, for such a meager exhibition gives strangers a poor idea of their valuable products.

Maple Sugar.—The domestic manufucture of this has greatly improved within a few years. We noticed some beautifully crystallized, and other specimens equal to the best crushed loaf sugar.

The Plowing Match.—Thursday, the 19th, this event came off, and a poor affair it was at best, compared with what we have seen at various county shows in New England. One quarter of an acre was the task, and 75 minutes allowed to perform it. Nine pairs of oxen and two pairs of horses only were entered. The oxen took the first prize.

The Address.—At 3 o'clock, P. M., about 5,000 persons obtained seats in and about the great tent, to listen to the address by George Bancroft, Esq. of Massachusetts. It was a finished, elegant production, read with a clear distinct tone, but abounded too much with generalities to suit our taste. He made a trifling mistake in saying that Mr. Van Rensselaer, the late patroon, was the first importer of Durhams, about the year 1824. Mr. Heaton of Westchester county, imported them as early as 1796; and these were followed by a few others, at short intervals, and quite a number of them in Massachusetts, New York, and Kentucky, from 1817 to 1822.

As there were still thousands on the show ground who could not get near enough to hear Mr. Bancroft, in answer to loud calls from the people, Capt. Joy mounted a stand outside of the great tent, and held forth to them for half an hour or so, in a comic address, which elicited continued roars of laughter.

Immediately after Mr. Bancroft finished his address, the chairmen of the respective committees read their reports, and announced the various premiums, which consumed the remainder of the time till dark; when the assembly was dispersed, and the gates of the show-ground closed. Thus ended another of those farmers' jubilees, which are doing so much for the improvement of the agriculture of the country, and the ennoblement of the husbandman.

Amount of Money received.—The amount of receipts at Poughkeepsie for memberships to the Society, and tickets of admission to the show-ground, principally at one shilling each, was about $3,700. In addition to this, the citizens of the village and its neighborhood defrayed the expenses of erecting the edifices and fencing the ground, costing about $1,700, making a total of about $5,400 received.

Number of Visiters.—These were computed during the three days of the show, at not less than 25,000 or 30,000, and the number would have been greatly increased were it not for the dust and excessive heat. We have no recollection of ever meeting with weather so oppressively hot in this latitude, in the month of September. The sun shone clear during the whole time, and with a fiery fierceness truly tropical. Add to this, the weather had been quite dry for a month previously, and such clouds of dust as every vehicle raised along the roads, was almost enough to blind one. Still the country made a good turn out, and right glad were we to find the number of ladies present nearly if not quite equal to that of men. It did one's heart good to look upon the buxom

girls crowding about, and scrutinizing everything with bright curious eyes. We dare say that the Poughkeepsie show will be quite an epoch hereafter in the history of the fair of Dutchess county, several of whom present might well grace a *Dutchess's coronet.*

The committee of arrangements of the citizens of Poughkeepsie, deserve the highest praise for their exertions throughout the whole proceedings of the show, and a well-deserved tribute was awarded them in the shape of resolutions passed by the Society before leaving the place. The citizens were very hospitable upon the occasion, many keeping open house during the week of the exhibition. For such as were kindly proffered us individually, while there, we return our grateful thanks. Quite a number of distinguished strangers were present, especially from the south, and we understand that all were highly pleased with the show and its entertainments. Some stock transactions took place in a private way during the last day, but to what extent we did not learn.

We now subjoin the list of such premiums as belong to agriculture and the mechanical branches immediately connected with it. There were a great number of discretionary premiums awarded for domestic fabrics, articles of curiosity, &c., &c., for which we have not space, the list already given below being very formidable.

—

PREMIUMS.

CATTLE.

CLASS I. *Best of any Breed.*

BULLS.—*Best 3 years old and upward.*—Geo. Vail, Rensselaer co., white Durham bull Meteor, 3 years old, bred by himself—by imp. Duke of Wellington, dam imp. Duchess, by Duke of Northumberland (1940). $20.

Best 2 years old.—C. F. Crosby, Albany co., white Durham bull Osceola, 2 years and 5 months old, bred by Henry Whitney, New Haven, Conn.—by Tempest, dam imp. Ringlet, by Belshazzar. $15.

Best Yearling.—Thos. Oliver, Westchester co., imp. roan Durham bull Marius, 1 year and 9 months old, bred by Earl Spencer, Wiseton, Eng.—by Roman, dam by Waverly. $10.

Best Calf.—Corning & Sotham, Albany co., red and white Hereford calf Pomaria, 6 months old, bred by themselves—by imp. Sir George, dam imp. Maria, by Young Favorite. $5.

COWS.—*Best 3 years old and upward.*—James Lenox, Dutchess co., imp. red Durham cow Red Lady, 10 years old, bred by Jonas Whitaker, Burley, Eng.—by Hubback (2142), dam by Don Juan (1923). $20.

Best 2 years old.—E. P. Prentice, Albany co., roan Durham heifer Nell, 2 years and 4 months old, bred by himself—by Northumberland, dam Daisy, by Leopard. $15.

Best Yearling.—Duncan Robinson, Dutchess co., red grade Durham heifer, 1 year and 10 months old, bred by himself. (No pedigree given.) $10.

Best calf.—Robert L. Pell, Ulster co., grade Durham heifer calf, bred by himself. (No pedigree given.) $6.

CLASS II. *Durhams.*

Bulls 3 years old and upward.—Geo. Vail, Rensselaer co., 1st premium, white bull Meteor, 3 years old, bred by himself—by imp. Duke of Wellington, dam imp. Duchess, by Duke of Northumberland (1940). $15;—D. D. Campbell, Schenectady co., 2d, white and red bull Rotterdam, 4 years old, bred by himself—by Bruce, dam Maria, by imp. Copson, $10;—Robert Donaldson, Dutchess co., 3d, imp. roan bull Prince Albert, 4 years old, bred by Jonas Whitaker, Burley, Eng.—by Sir Thomas Fairfax, dam Paulina, by son of Matchem. Diploma.

Bulls 2 years old.—C. F. Crosby, Albany co., 1st premium, white bull Osceola, 2 years and 5 months old, bred by Henry Whitney, New Haven, Conn.—by Tempest, dam imp. Ringlet, by Belshazzar, $10;—Geo. Vail, Rensselaer co., 2d, roan bull Symmetry, 2 years and 1 month old, bred by himself—by imp. Duke of Wellington, dam imp. Duchess, by Duke of Northumberland (1940), $5;—Wm. Salisbury, Green co., 3d, white bull Sir Peter, 2 years and 4 months old, bred by himself—by Splendor, dam May Rose, by Morris' imp. George Canning, diploma.

Yearling Bulls.—Thos. Oliver, Westchester co., 1st premium, imp. roan bull Marius, 1 year and 9 months old, bred by Earl Spencer, Wiseton, Eng.—by Roman, dam by Waverly, $10;—J. F. Sheafe, Dutchess co., 2d, roan bull Hudson, 1 year and 2 months old, bred by Lewis F. Allen, Erie co.—by Mayduke, dam Fanny Jarman, by imp. Cadmus, $5;—Jas. Lenox, Dutchess co., 3d, red roan bull Dandy, 1 year and 4 months old, bred by himself—by imp. King Charles II., dam imp. Red Lady, by Hubback, diploma.

Bull Calves.—C. N. Bement, Albany co., 1st premium, white bull calf Albino, 5 months old, bred by himself—by Royal William, dam Gazelle, by Astoria, $5;—Geo. Vail, Rensselaer co., 2d, white and red bull calf, 5 months old, bred by himself—by imp. Duke of Wellington, dam by imp. Copson, diploma.

Cows 3 years old and upward.—J. F. Sheafe, Dutchess co., 1st premium, imp. roan cow Venus, 11 years old, bred by Mr. Pilkington, Lancashire, Eng.—by Monarch, dam by son of Sir Dimple, $15;—Geo. Vail, Rensselaer co., 2d, red roan cow Victoria, 3 years old, bred by himself—by imp. Duke of Wellington, dam by imp. Copson, $10;—J. F. Sheafe, Dutchess co., 3d, white cow Grace, 3 years old, bred by Lewis F. Allen, Erie co.—by Snowdrop, dam Daisy by Bertram II., diploma.

Heifers 2 years old.—E. P. Prentice, Albany co., 1st premium, roan heifer Nell, 2 years and 4 months old, bred by himself—by Northumberland, dam Daisy, by Leopard, $10;—E. P. Prentice, 2d, roan heifer Esterville, 2 years and 3 months old, bred by himself—by Dan'l O'Connell, dam imp. Esterville, by Sir Alfred, $5;—Dudley B. Fuller, Dutchess co., 3d, red and white heifer Victoria, 2 years and 5 months old, bred by himself (pedigree, &c., not given), diploma.

Yearling Heifers.—Geo. Dakin, Dutchess co., 1st premium, white and red heifer (no breeder, age, or pedigree given), $10;—D. D. Campbell, Schenectady co., 2d, red and white heifer Red Rose, 1 year and 4 months old, bred by himself—by Rotterdam, dam Maria, by imp. Copson, $5;—M. Kelly, Dutchess co., 3d, roan heifer (no breeder, age, or pedigree given), diploma.

Heifer Calves.—Geo. Vail, Rensselaer co., 1st premium, red and white heifer Sally III., bred by himself—by imp. Duke of Wellington, dam Sally, by imp. Copson, $5;—C. N. Bement, Albany co., 2d, white heifer calf Albiness, bred by himself—by Royal William, dam Delight, by Astoria, diploma.

CLASS III. *Herefords.*

Bulls 3 years old and upward.—None shown.

Bulls 2 years old.—Corning & Sotham, Albany co., 1st premium, red and white bull Edwin, bred by themselves—by imp. Young Prize, dam imp. Maria, by Young Favorite, $10. No other of this age shown.

Yearling Bulls.—None shown.

Bull Calves.—Corning & Sotham, 1st premium, red and white bull calf Pomaria, 6 months old, bred by themselves—by imp. Sir George, dam imp. Maria, by Young Favorite, $5. None other of this age shown.

Cows 3 years old and upward.—Corning & Sotham, 1st premium, imp. red and white cow Aston Beauty, 6 years old, bred by Wm. Hewer, Gloucestershire, Eng.—by a son of Old Sovereign, dam by Fitz Favorite, $15;—Corning & Sotham, 2d, red and white cow Victoria, 5 years old, bred by Wm. Hewer, Gloucestershire, Eng.—by Major, dam by Favorite, $10;—Corning & Sotham, 3d, imp. red cow Perfection, 5 years old, bred by Wm. Hewer, Gloucestershire, Eng.—by Major, dam Bloomy, by Favorite, diploma.

Heifers 2 years old.—Corning & Sotham, 1st premium, red and white heifer Mary, bred by themselves—by Young Favorite, dam imp. Perfection, by Major, $10. None other of this age shown.

Yearling Heifers.—Corning & Sotham, 1st premium, red and white heifer Lilla, bred by themselves—by imp. Young Prize, dam imp. Victoria, by Major, $10;—Corning & Sotham, 2d, red and white heifer Maggie, bred by themselves—by imp. Young Prize, dam imp. Rarity, by Major, $5. None others of this age shown.

Heifer Calves.—None shown.

Class IV. *Devon Cattle.*

To L. F. Allen, Black Rock, for best bull calf, $5.

For best cow, 1st, to D. B. Lent, Poughkeepsie, $15;—2d, to L. F. Allen, $10.

Class V. *Ayrshire Cattle.*

For best bull, 1st, to Joel Rathbone, Albany, $15;—2d, to C. N. Bement, $10.

The Committee also awarded a premium of $15 to Mr. Archibald of Montreal, for his Ayrshire bull, Sir Walter Scott.

For best cow, 1st, to Thomas Ellison, New Windsor, $15;—2d, to Joel Rathbone, $10;—3d, to Cornelius Dubois, Poughkeepsie, vol. Transactions.

Class VI. *Grade Cattle.*

For best 2 years old heifer, 1st, to Duncan Robinson, Fishkill, $5;—2d and 3d, to J. F. Sheaf, Poughkeepsie, $3 and diploma.

Class VII. *Native Cattle.*

For best cow, 1st, to R. Donaldson, $12;—2d, to R. L. Pell, $8;—3d, to Z. Pratt, Greene county, vol. Transactions. A vol. of Transactions was awarded to Hezekiah Smith, Greene county, for his native bull; and a premium of $3 to John G. Parker, Poughkeepsie, for his native calf.

WORKING OXEN AND STEERS.

For best pair, 1st, to Luther Comstock, Oneida, $15;—2d, to Isaac Doty, Clinton Hollow, $10;—3d, to H. D. Grant, Amenia, vol. Transactions;—4th, to F. W. Akin, Greenbush, diploma.

Best 3 yoke oxen, 1st, to Jas. S. and Wm. Wadsworth, Geneseo, $15;—2d, to D. B. Fuller, Hyde Park, $10.

Best 10 yoke oxen from one town, 1st, to D. B. Fuller, J. W. Wheeler, Elias Butler, Thomas Allen, and John Traver, Hyde Park, $20.

Best 3 years old steers, 1st, to Charles Wescott, Fishkill, $15; 2d, to J. W. Wheeler, Hyde Park, $10.

Best yearling steers, to Dr. Vandeburgh, Rhinebeck, $10.

FAT CATTLE.

Best pair, 1st, to George Mills, Livingston county, $20;—2d, to Thomas Swift, Amenia, $15;—3d, to A. M. Underhill, Clinton Hollow, $10;—4th, to Duguid & Candee, Onondaga, diploma.

Best fat ox, 1st, to D. D. Campbell, $15;—2d, to Duncan Robinson, $10;—3d, to Duguid & Candee, vol. Transactions.

Best fat heifer, 1st, to Martinus Calkins, Chenango county, $15;—2d, to Walter Wakeman, North East, $10;—3d, to Dr. Vandeburgh, vol. Transactions.

HORSES.

Best stallion over 4 years old, 1st, to Wm. Salisbury, $20;—2d, to John Greenfield, Newburgh, $10;—3d, to Silas Belding, Amenia, $6 and vol. Transactions;—4th, to A. J. Skidmore, Fishkill, $4 and Diploma.

Best 3 years old stallion, 1st, to Calvert Canfield, Pleasant Valley, $15;—2d, to Jacob Duncan, Union Vale, $10;—3d, to Job Sisson, Washington, $6.

The Committee on Stallions made the following special awards: to David B. Haight, Dutchess county, $10;—Aaron Bailey, Cherry Valley, $6 and diploma; Edward Long, Cambridge, $6;—to David Long, as groom, $5; and diplomas to Epenetus How, North Salem; Wm. H. Ludlow, Claverack; C. F. Crosby, Watervliet; John Cooper, Poughkeepsie; Bastion Moore, Columbia county; S. V. R. Ableman and Corning & Sotham, Albany; Benj. Petit, Oneida county; L. W. Ten Broeck, Columbia co.; Samuel Verplank, Fishkill.

Best breeding mare and colt, 1st, to Josiah Williams, Poughkeepsie, $20;—2d, to Isaac T. Frost, $10;—3d, to Thomas Dearin, Poughkeepsie, diploma. The Committee also awarded $10 to S. C. Roe, and diplomas to P. Lyon, Washington, and Moses Clark.

Best pair matched farm horses, 1st, to Allen B. Stockholm, Fishkill, $10;—2d, to Philip Vandelbelt, Fishkill, vol. Transactions.

Best pair matched horses, 1st, to Wm. Landon, Albany, $10;—2d, to Wm. A. Davis, Poughkeepsie, vol. Transactions;—3d, to J. P. Beekman, Kinderhook, diploma.

Best single horse, 1st, to De Witt Hasbrouck, Orange county, $10;—2d, to Duguid & Candee, vol. Transactions. Volumes of Transactions were also awarded to Anthony Van Bergen, Coxsackie; Samuel Townsend, Orange county, and Benjamin Van Voast.

MULES.

Second premium to Nathan Colman, Po'keepsie, $10.

SHEEP.

Class I. *Long Wooled.*

Best buck, 1st, to L. D. Clift, Carmel, $10;—2d, to Thomas Dunn, Albany, $5;—3d, to Nathaniel Halleck, Milton, diploma.

Best pen of 3 ewes, 1st, to L. D. Clift, $10;—2d, to Edward Halleck, Milton, $5;—3d, to Henry Mesier, Fishkill, diploma.

Best pen of 5 lambs, to Willet Colver, Hyde Park, $5.

Class II. *Middle Wooled.*

Best buck, 1st, to Isaac Foster, Hillsdale, $10;—2d, to J. McD. McIntyre, Albany, $5;—3d, to S. & J. Wait, Orange co., diploma.

Best pen of 3 ewes, 1st, to S. & J. Wait, $10;—2d, to J. McD. McIntyre, $5;—3d, to Edward Halleck, diploma.

Best pen of 5 lambs, to D. B. Haight, $5.

Class III. *Fine Wooled.*

Saxons.—Best bucks, 1st, to C. W. Hull, New Lebanon, $10;—2d, to Abner Brown, North East, $5;—3d, to Samuel H. Church, Vernon, diploma.

Best pen of 3 ewes, 1st, to Walter Wakeman, North

East, $10;—2d, to Samuel H. Church, $5;—3d, to S. B. Crocker, Vernon, diploma.

Merinos.—Best buck, 1st, to H. S. Randall, Cortland Village, $10;—2d, to H. & J. Carpenter, Po'keepsie, $5.

Best 3 ewes, 1st and 2d, to H. S. Randall, $10 and $5;—3d, to H. & I. Carpenter, Poughkeepsie, vol. Transactions.

Best 5 lambs, to Rawson Harmon, jr., Wheatland, $5.

FAT SHEEP.

Best, to J. McD. McIntyre, $10;—2d, to D. W. Elting, New Paltz, $5;—3d, to J. C. Haviland, Dutchess co., vol. Transactions.

SHEEP FROM OTHER STATES.

Best fine wooled buck, 1st, to Jacob N. Blakeslee, Litchfield county, Conn., silver medal;—2d, to Stephen Atwood, Litchfield county, Conn., 2 vols. Transactions.

Best 3 fine wooled ewes, to Jacob N. Blakeslee, Conn., silver medal.

SWINE.

Best boar, 1st, to Benj. H. Hart, Lagrange, $10;—2d, to James Lennox, $5;—3d, to C. F. Crosby, dip.

Best sow, 1st, to W. A. S. North, Duanesburgh, $10;—2d, to W. T. Hulse, Blooming Grove, $5; 3d, to Thos. T. Doty, Beekman, diploma.

Best lot of pigs, 1st, to D. B. Lent, $5;—2d, to Thomas T. Doty, diploma.

The Committee commend a boar and sow of Neapolitan breed, offered by C. N. Bement, and a Leicester boar of John Wilkinson.

FARM IMPLEMENTS, &C.

Best plow, 1st, to Howard Delano, Mottville, Onon. co., $15;—2d, to Thomas D. Burrall, Geneva, shell wheeled plow, silver medal;—3d, to, W. U. Chase, Amsterdam, $5;—4th, to M. D. & T. H. Codding, Rochester, diploma.

For gang plow, to Thomas Wiard, East Avon, $15.

For best dynamometer, to W. U. Chase, $15;—2d, to T. D. Burrall, Geneva, $7;—3d, Mr. Seymour, Hartford, Conn., diploma.

Best farm wagon, 2d premium to Wm. Cox, Stamford, vol. Transactions.

Best horse cart, to John Wilkinson, Union Vale, $5.

Best horse rake, 1st, to Gustavus White, Middlefield, $5;—2d, to Wm. B. Stoddard, Moravia, vol. Transactions.

Best grain cradle, to David Flanders, St. Lawrence co., $3.

Best half dozen hay forks, to Taylor, Buttolph, & Co., West Stockholm, diploma.

Best dung forks, to Taylor, Buttolph, & Co., vol. Transactions.

Best harrow, to John Wilkinson, vol. Transactions.

Best fanning mill, 1st, to Isaac T. Grant, Schagticoke, silver medal;—2d, to David Bryan, North East, vol. Trans.;—3d, to B. Dodge, Watertown, diploma.

Best threshing machine, 1st, to J. A. Taplin, Montpelier, Vt., $15;—2d, to S. S. Allen, Poughkeepsie, vol. Transactions;—3d, to A. Wheeler & Brothers, Chatham, diploma.

Best straw cutter, 1st, to Wm. Hovey, Worcester, Mass., silver medal;—2d, to Stephen Armstrong, Poughkeepsie, vol. Transactions;—3d, to Thos. P. Thorn, Fishkill, diploma.

Best cheese press, to Egbert Dodge, Watertown, $3.

Best field roller, to T. D. Burrall, diploma.

Best corn sheller, to Francis N. Smith, Kinderhook, diploma.

Best bee palace, to M. O. Remmington, Cayuga co., diploma.

Best bee hive, to E. Townley, New York, $5.

Best harvesting machine, to George Easterly, Heart Prairie, Wisconsin, diploma.

Best model of hay press, 1st, to Dedrick & Brothers, Claverack, vol. Transactions;—2d, to J. H. P. G. Yelverton, Poughkeepsie, diploma.

Best rut shears, to B. Benedict, Geneseo, diploma.

Best washing machine, to Joseph C. Rich, Penfield, diploma.

Best clover machine, to Wheeler & Brothers, Columbia co., vol. Transactions.

Best clover gatherer, to Benj. N. Hart, diploma.

Best apple drier, to Gustavus White, diploma.

Best churn, to David Dakin, Pine Plains, diploma.

Best cultivator plow, to B. Langdon, Troy, $5.

Best stump machine, to R. H. Hall, Owego, silver medal.

DAIRY.

Best butter, 1st, to I. Martin, Ulster co., $15;—2d, to Hester Ann Travers, Troy, silver medal;—3d, to Theodore Allen, Hyde Park, silver medal;—4th, to Nathan Colman, Dutchess co., silver medal;—5th, to Caroline S. Cheesman, Dutchess co., silver medal;—6th to John Lester, Lagrange, silver medal.

Best cheese, 1st, to H. P. & G. Allen, Duanesburgh, $15;—2d, to A. L. Fish, Litchfield, silver medal.

MAPLE SUGAR.

Best, to Joel Woodworth, Watertown, $15;—2d, to Wm. E. White, Walton, $10;—3d, to Alfred Fitch, Riga, diploma.

SILK.

Best manufactured silk, 1st, to George Gents, agent for Murry & Co., Paterson, N. J., $20;—2d, to Clark Avery, Madison county, 2 lbs. sewing, $10;—3d, to Miss Margaretta Hutchinson, Long Island, $5; 4th, to Wm. Thomas, Col. co., diploma.

Best reeled silk, 1st, to Ruth S. Cary, Saratoga co., $10;—2d, to Ira Howland, Pleasant Valley, $5;—3d. to C. R. Cable, Constantia, diploma.

Best cocoons, 1st, to Ira Howland, $10;—2d, to Palmer Cook, Red Hook, $5;—3d, to J. C. Church, Poughkeepsie, diploma.

DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

Best woolen carpets, 1st, 2d, and 3d, to C. M. Pelton, Poughkeepsie, $5, $4, and $3.

Best rag carpets, 1st, to Mrs. C. W. Tower, Amenia, $3;—2d, to Mrs. James Ryan, New Paltz, $2;—3d, to J. Palmer, Poughkeepsie, $1.

Best woolen cloth, 1st, to Scofield, Capron, & Co., Walden, $5;—2d, to J. Bowen, Pleasant Valley, $4;—3d, to Titus, Sweet, & Co., Dutchess co., $3.

Best carpet coverlet, 1st, to Philip P. Knapp, Beekman, $4;—2d, to Philip Dubois, New Paltz, $3;—3d, to Israel Hall, Fishkill, $2.

Best woolen blanket, to Norman Culver, Arcadia, $5.

Best linen sewing thread, 1st, to Peter Crispel, jr., Ulster co., $2;—2d, to Norman Culver, $1.

Best linen diaper, 1st and 2d, to Mrs. Russel, Lebanon Springs, $5 and $4;—3d, to Peter Crispel, jr., $3.

Best linen, 1st, to Mrs. Russel, $5;—2d, to Peter Crispel, jr., $5;—3d, to D. W. Elting, Ulster co., $3.

Best linen knit stockings, 1st, to Mrs. Freelove Arnold, Quaker Hill, $2;—2d, to Peter Crispel, jr., $1;—3d, to Mrs. Vincent M. Townsend, diploma.

Best cotton knit stockings, 1st, 2d, and 3d, to Mrs. Charles Thompson, Poughkeepsie, $2, $1, and Diploma.

Best woolen knit stockings, 1st, to S. Bassett, North East, $3;—2d and 3d to Mrs. Daniel Washburn, Union Vale, $1 and diploma.

Best tow cloth, 1st to Peter Crispel, $1.

Best hearth rugs, 1st, to Chas. M. Pelton, Poughkeepsie, $5;—2d, to Nancy Hull, Lexington Heights, $4;—3d, to Lydia Peck, Lexington Heights, $3.

Best Flannel, to Mrs. G. W. Henry, Lowville, $5.

VEGETABLES.

Best celery, to Robert Kelly, Rhinebeck, $2.

Best cauliflower, to Samuel Curry, Poughkeepsie, $2.

Best turneps, to Michael Kane, gardener of John A. de Groff, Hyde Park, $1.

Best carrots, to John B. James, Rhinebeck, $1.

Best beets, to R. L. Pell, $1.

Best parsneps, to W. Harrocks, Hyde Park, $1.

Best cabbage, to R. L. Pell, $1.

Best tomatoes, to R. L. Pell, $1.

Best egg plants, to John B. James, $1.

Best onions, to Joseph T. Adriance, Po'keepsie, $1.

Best Lima beans, to Joseph T. Adriance, $1.

Best double parsley, to Michael Kane, $1.

Best squashes, to R. L. Pell, $1.

Largest pumpkin, to John Townsend, Hyde Park, $1.

Best seed corn, to J. F. Osborn, Port Byron, $1.

Best table potatoes, 1st, to W. Harrocks, $2;—2d, to Samuel Curry, $1.

Diplomas were awarded for celery to Samuel Mitchell, Poughkeepsie—to W. Harrock, for turneps and for fine specimen of green peas—to Michael Kane, for orange carrots—to J. F. Adriance, Poughkeepsie, for white carrots and for best collection of various kinds of beets—to Nathan Colman, for beautiful specimens of white onions—to N. Shephard, for Lima beans—to D. B. Fuller, for 8 varieties of squashes—to A. J. Downing, for seedling rhubarb—to Robert Kelly, for vegetable oyster.

Volumes of Transactions were awarded to Joseph F. Adriance for Cuba pumpkins, eighteen from one seed, weighing 776½ lbs.—to Hamilton Morrison, Montgomery, for twelve varieties of potatoes—to Mrs. Verplanck, Fishkill Landing, for several fine heads of lettuce—to Thomas Addis Emmet, New York, for okra and cucumbers.

FRUIT.

For greatest varieties of table apples, 1st, to A. J. Downing & Co., Newburgh, $5;—2d, to John R. Comstock, Washington, $3;—3d, to J. F. Osborn, Port Byron, vol. Transactions.

For 12 best table apples, to R. L. Pell, Pelham, $3.

For greatest variety of table pears, 1st, to A. J. Downing & Co., $3;—2d, to Wm. Reid, Murray Hill, vol. Transactions.

Volumes of Transactions were awarded to A. J. Downing & Co. for greatest variety of winter pears—to Alex. H. Smith, Hyde Park, for best 12 Quinces—to Mrs. A. Thorpe, Schodack, for best 12 peaches—to A. J. Downing & Co., for best 24 plums—to W. North, Poughkeepsie, for best 6 bunches native grapes—to Robert Donaldson, Blythwood, for best 6 bunches foreign grapes.

A diploma and $1 were awarded to Moses Humphrey, Poughkeepsie, a colored man, 80 years old, for fine specimens of grapes.

FLOWERS.

For greatest variety, 1st, to Miss Verplanck, Fishkill, $5;—2d, to Wm. W. Harrock, $3.

For floral ornaments, 1st, to Wm. Prince & Co., Flushing, $5;—2d, to Miss Garretson, Rhinebeck, $3.

For dahlias, 1st, to J. M. Thorburn & Co., New York, $5;—2d, to J. B. James, Rhinebeck, $3;—3d, to Mrs. Pine, Flushing, vol. Transactions—4th, to Mr. Swift, Poughkeepsie, diploma. Discretionary—$3 to Mr. Van Waggoner, Poughkeepsie, and $1 to Samuel Mitchell, Poughkeepsie.

For greenhouse plants, 1st, to John N. Stuveysant, Hyde Park, vol. Transactions;—2d, to J. Charred, Poughkeepsie, diploma.

PLOWING MATCH.

First premium to Wm. H. Werrell, Poughkeepsie, $15;—2d, to Peter F. Procius, Kinderhook, $12;—3d, to Valentine Halleck, $10;—4th, to E. B. Smith, Poughkeepsie, $6;—5th, to Elias Westervelt, Poughkeepsie, diploma. The committee awarded prizes of $3 each, to John Day, of Lithgow, and James East, of Poughkeepsie, as the best plowmen.

IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Silver medals were awarded to George Geddes, Onondaga co., for an improved harrow—to Roswell H. Hall, Owego, for a stump extractor—to Wm. Hovey, Worcester, Mass., for his straw cutter—to I. T. Grant, Schagticoke, for a fanning mill.

DISCRETIONARY PREMIUMS.

Flour.—To E. S. Beach & Co., Akrom mills, Ohio, for a *good* barrel of flour, diploma—to Philip Garbutt, Wheatland, N. Y., for a *better* barrel of flour, $3—to John Williams, Rochester, for the *best* barrel of flour, $5.

Diplomas were awarded to Comstock & Johnston, of Rome, for a splendid assortment of garden tools—to Peter Crispel, jr., for a specimen of flax—to Gen. R. Harmon, jr., Wheatland, for 35 varieties of wheat in the ear—to John R. Stuveysant, Hyde Park, for 3 topknot fowls, remarkable for laying eggs the whole year without intermission—to J. B. Hayes, Hastings, for a specimen of Egyptian wheat in the ear—to Russell Comstock, Washington, for seedling apples and pears—to Anson Barhyde, Col. co., for 3 models of bee hives and bee house.

Smut Machines.—To Wm. Delaney, Canterbury, $5;—to W. G. Borland, Little Falls, $3;—to E. F. Cushman, Troy, $3.

A premium of $2 was awarded to John Wilkinson, Union Vale, for a specimen of crystallized sugar—to John C. Hall, Fallsburgh, for a beautiful sample of timothy seed, $3.

DEATH OF GRANDEE.

It is with no little regret that we record the loss of this invaluable Merino buck, by an accident about 3 months since. He was imported with a small flock of Merino ewes, in 1840, by Mr. Collins of Connecticut, from the royal flocks of Rambouillet, in France. Grandee was certainly the most superb Merino that ever came under our inspection, though we have seen many from the early importations of Spain of Col. Humphrey and others, down to the latest pure bred here, and "*improved*" (as they are called!) by crosses with various breeds of our own and other countries. But for his untimely death, Grandee would have been exhibited at the late show of the New York State Agricultural Society at Poughkeepsie. There are many valuable Merino sheep in the United States possessing more or less good blood; yet we have heard but one expression of opinion from gentlemen who have examined Grandee, namely: that for combination of great weight—fineness, and *evenness* of fleece, coupled with superior hardiness of constitution—blood-like form and character, with singular noble aspect, he was never equalled by any of his kind imported into or bred in the United States. He is indeed a great national loss; for in a few generations, by means of his stock, he

would have stamped a character upon our fine wooled flocks which would have been of inestimable value to the country. We understand that it is Mr. Collins' intention to replace Grandee by another direct importation from Europe.

KEEPING DEER.

In order to keep deer in a thriving and healthy state, their enclosure ought not to be stocked to exceed three animals to the acre: that is to say, for a herd of 30 animals, including young and old, the park should embrace at least 10 acres. Deer require a large range, and however small the herd, we would not confine them to an enclosure less than 5 acres; and when it is less than 30 acres or so, and the herd exceeds two deer to the acre, they should be shifted every little while to a different enclosure. For example, if we had 20 deer, and we were under the necessity of confining them within pretty close limits, we would give them the range of an enclosure of 10 acres for four months, then shift them to another for four months, and thus continue from year to year. The park should be a dry soil, with a clear stream of water running through it, and contain sufficient pasture to keep the deer during the summer, and several acres of wood land of a mixture of large and small trees and some thick underbrush for browsing, as they are extremely fond of this. We have been told by those highly experienced in keeping deer, that if they can not have an opportunity of browsing during the winter and spring, they soon become diseased, and droop and die. If the fence be a stone or brick wall, it should be at least 6 feet high; if of wood, 7 or 8 feet, and made so close that a dog of over 20 lbs. weight can not get through it.

The feed, housing, and general management of deer, may be like that of a flock of Merino sheep, save that their sheds should be erected in their parks, and their feed during winter be carried there to them. In addition to hay, which should be of the finer kinds of grass, they are very fond of corn stalks and blades. They may be fed corn or any sort of grain in a moderate quantity, though we have found oats and beans suit them best. They also like roots, cabbage, and any green food; but in feeding these be careful not to give them so much as to make them scour. The best method of salting them, as indeed all kinds of stock, is to put lumps of rock salt on the ground, or under their sheds in a low tub or box, so that they can come and lick it when they please. They require water in the winter as well as summer. The pasture part of their park should be moderately limed every two or three years, and when they are shifted out of it, a few cows may be turned in to eat up such grass as the deer reject, or cattle may run in the same pasture with them; a few geese may also be kept there, as they devour noxious weeds and grass which are inimical to the health of all animals.

Deer are pretty pets, especially for the ladies. Sailing up the Hudson the past summer, we saw on a shady lawn fronting a beautiful cottage and sloping to the river, a fine little girl dressed in snowy white, gamboling with a pair of dappled fawns and an Italian greyhound. It was a charming sight—each beautiful and graceful in its own nature, and full of the spirit and joy of life.

When much noticed, deer become very fond of man, and are as affectionate as dogs. We have had them so tame as to delight in coming into the house, and even couching upon a bed; and they would not only come at our call, and follow us all over the farm, but even along the public high road, regardless of other objects there. When not likely to be disturbed, they may run with the cattle at all seasons except that of breeding; they should then be kept up in a strong enclosure by themselves, as the does at this time are apt to become a little wild, and the bucks are sometimes dangerous to approach. Large herds of deer are kept by gentlemen at the south and west, a few buffalo also and elk, and we shall be quite obliged to any of our friends more experienced in keeping these animals than we are, to give us full particulars regarding them. We have seen herds of 1,500 deer, or more, in parks in England, where they have a range of several miles.

It would be well to obtain bucks from some other herd for the young does, and in selecting them be careful to procure the largest, strongest, and finest. We should fat and make venison of all past 5 or 6 years old.

PEDIGREES OF PEDRO AND FORTUNE.

We respectfully solicit from Mr. Solomon W. Jewett of Vermont, and Mr. Henry S. Randall of New York, at their earliest convenience, the pedigrees and breed of Mr. Jewett's rams Pedro and Fortune, pictured and described in the present and late volumes of the Albany Cultivator. We also request Mr. Randall to inform us where the "*pure Paulars* in the United States, in the hands of various individuals," are to be found, of which he speaks at page 25 of the Cultivator, for 1844, as we greatly desire the "satisfaction" of looking at and inspecting them. We likewise request Mr. Jewett to inform us, where the "*Simon Pure* flock of 400 Paulars" can be seen, which he describes in Vol. II., page 212, of the American Agriculturist. We do not ask for the above information invidiously, but for the purpose of satisfying our own and others' curiosity, and also to give Messrs. Jewett and Randall a full opportunity of proving, as they have asserted they could, that there are many *pure* Paular Merino sheep still to be found in the United States, whose pedigrees and breeding are indisputable.

Deferred Articles.—The space which we are obliged to devote to the State Agricultural show at Poughkeepsie, has crowded out several articles which we had designed should find a place in this number. Among these is Agriculture in Scotland, No. 2; Blight in Pear Trees, &c., &c.

Transmutation of Grain.—For a curious article on this vexed subject see Foreign Agricultural News, page 315.

AGRICULTURAL PUBLICATIONS.

I HAIL the monthly issue of the American Agriculturist and kindred journals, with quite as much interest and anxiety, I have no doubt, as many of your commercial men do the arrival of the Great Western, Acadia, &c., from over the Atlantic, which I suppose will argue, without farther proof, that I am decidedly in favor of agricultural publications, or "*book-farming*," as some of our worthy farmers are pleased to term it. I am happy to add that I am, and that I conceive it to be my interest to seize every opportunity offered me to peruse such works; not only that I may profit by the experience of others, who may be better informed than myself, but that I may become acquainted with useful facts, which will enable me to advocate and defend a cause I know to be fraught with interests, teeming with everything that is noble and good. But useful and valuable as such works are, and of necessity should be; and as much as I believe the farmers in my own section, as well as in many other parts of the country, have been benefited and their farms improved by the perusal of them; and as much as I respect and esteem their many able contributors, yet I have a word to offer in the way of complaining. I have hinted that many good things have been spread abroad through the medium of agricultural publications, for which I honor their able conductors, yet against many good things contained therein I am bound to enter my solemn protest; and if you have the patience to bear with me at all, I must without farther ceremony descend to particulars.

I have long considered my objections of a serious nature, inasmuch as I believe they affect a more extended circulation of these valuable works; and, consequently, a great amount of useful information is shut out from the very class of people who most need it.

First, I shall refer to the very many *hard* words made use of by *scientific* writers; also to the very indefinite and elaborate way many writers have of expressing their ideas. (*a*) One instance at hand may suffice to explain my meaning. When I opened the July number of your paper, I noticed an article on the "Culture of Tobacco," which to cultivate successfully, the writer said required "an abundant supply of saline matter," and "a sufficient source of ammonia." Now I am not going to charge the body of our farmers as being inexcusably ignorant; I would scorn to offer such an insult; but a great many of them are plain, practical, working men—men who have had much to struggle against and much to contend for—hardy pioneers who have had to carve out their perilous track through forests of wood and stone—veterans who have had to follow the plow instead of treading our college courts; such are many of the real owners of the soil through our country, men who are willing to read, yet not such *Greek* as I have quoted—they want to come right at the plain thing at once. Now of such, who knows what "saline matter" is? Does it mean *salt?* then why not say salt at once and be done with it; everybody knows what salt is, and surely any one could understand a man if he said one bushel of salt to the acre would benefit a certain crop. (*b*)

Secondly, the writer adds, "a sufficient source of ammonia." Now who knows what "ammonia" is? And who can tell what quantity to the acre "a sufficient source" is? And after reading the article, what farmer could go into his field and tell whether "a sufficient source of ammonia" existed in that soil or not? Now is the farmer benefited by such reading? On the contrary, is he not more firmly set against such works. Well, I asked who knows what "ammonia" is? Says one, "go to Walker's Dictionary." Well, we go there, and find "ammonia" is "*volatile alkali.*" Now the reader is just about as much enlightened as he was before. (*c*) Says another, "why, there is many a one knows what 'ammonia' is; but if he don't, he ought to know." Admit it. Now I don't insist upon it that a great majority of your subscribers could not find out what "ammonia" was, but I simply adduce this specimen as one among a hundred others, equally unintelligible to the class of readers to whom I allude. Neither do I look upon agricultural publications as designed for learned or unlearned men *alone.* I would have them plain and practical, equally intelligible to all. (*d*)

It is for the plain, hard-fisted farmer, who to read understandingly wants the plain English before him; that is the respectable class of citizens I plead for; they are the men to be really benefited. Now this is no mere theory; I honestly believe it to be an existing incumbrance in the way of a more extensive improvement. I know I shall have scientific men up in arms against me; nevertheless, I believe I assert the truth when I say, that three fourths of our hard-working farmers are not *scientific* men; consequently, the very class of men who need the *most* information, *get* the *least.* If this is really an important objection, and it could be done away with, if scientific men would write plain articles, couched in plain language, and every reader could be made to feel at home, I believe the advantages to the farming community would be ten-fold. Now we are not interested in the "Culture of Tobacco" here in Jersey; I for one never saw tobacco growing, and have no idea how it grows or what it looks like. (*e*) Had the article I have taken the liberty to allude to been headed "On the Culture of Corn," nine tenths of our farmers, though deeply interested in its culture, after reading the first three or four lines would have dropped the article and passed it by. Not because the article is not good and worthy of consideration, and one that reflects great credit on its author, but because we have a large class of readers that can not appreciate it.

Again, in articles headed, "On the Application of Gypsum," I myself neglected for a long while to peruse them under this caption, because I quite took it for granted that "gypsum" was some foreign article, known and applied in perhaps every nook and corner of the globe but Jersey. Now if "gypsum" is more commonly called "plaster-of-Paris," why not say so? We have no other name for that substance here; and indeed, I can not see

the policy of calling the same thing by one name in New York and by another in Jersey. We have some writers, for instance, who can not say, "put one ounce or two ounces of saltpetre on your meat;" but they say, "to cure your meat well, you must add a certain quantity of '*nitrate of potash.*'" For my part, I protest against such indefinite and far-fetched directions; our honest farmers want something more definite and *rustic.* (*f*)

But I beg you, do not consider me as acting from selfish motives in this uncouth attack upon better pens than mine. I refer not to the articles themselves wholly, for there is merit in them, but to the big words with which they are encumbered, as a common complaint among men who would otherwise be glad to avail themselves of the advantages of "book-farming."

Much has been done to stimulate the farmer to new and improved action; many a dark and barren corner has been illuminated with the light shed abroad through the medium of our agricultural works; but much, very much yet remains to be done, and as we are stern advocates for improvement, let us if possible improve this branch of our work also. I have already gone beyond my prescribed limits, yet one word more and I have done.

In the present enormous rates of *postage*, I believe we have another serious drawback to agricultural prosperity; inasmuch, as it positively excludes a more extensive communication between farmers who live remote from each other, but who would correspond more freely were it not for this unjust and impolitic tax. And judging from actual intercourse, I believe I speak the sentiments of the mass of the people in our section of the country, when I repeat that the present postage tax is unjust, outrageous, and impolitic. Years ago it took two days to go from our place to New York, and return; now we go and come in a little less than four hours. Then the fare was $3, now it is $1. But the postage for a letter is still the same! And I think I do not err when I say, that there are as many letters carried in private pockets as by mail—and why not? behold the facilities for so doing. The people to a man consider the law oppressive, and are ever ready to relieve each other from its yoke. (*g*) W. D.

Morristown, Morris Co., N. J., Aug., 1844.

(*a*) We can fully sympathize with our correspondent in his indignation against "scientific" terms; for we well recollect when a youngster, on first taking up a work on scientific agriculture, of being wofully nonplussed in almost every sentence, and after studying over a few pages, throwing the work down in disgust, and then seeking relief from the dry, *non-understandable* book, by an active exercise with some agricultural implement in the field. Time, however, and reflection at length convinced us of the folly of such an exclusively practical course, and in maturer years we found that we must not only read but *study*, and that *hard* too, if we ever expected to become a good farmer; and as appropriate to this subject, we beg leave to quote two short sentences from the Comic Blackstone, over which our correspondent will doubtless have a hearty laugh, as we did on first reading them.

"Servius Sulpicius, a patrician, called on Mutius Scævola, the Roman Pollock (not one of the firm of Castor & Pollux), for a legal opinion, when Mutius Scævola thoroughly *flabbergasted* Servius Sulpicius with a flood of technicalities, which the latter could not understand. Upon this Mutius Scævola bullied his client for his ignorance; when Sulpicius, in a fit of pique, went home and studied the law with such effect, that he wrote *one hundred and fourscore* volumes of law-books before he died; which task was for what we know, the death of him."

Now it is quite impracticable, as we have frequently remarked, to write upon certain subjects of agriculture, without the use of "scientific or hard" words, the hardness or science of which is nothing more than this—that they have not yet become common or familiar among the farmers; and although we may not expect every one who gets "*flabbergasted*" with scientific agricultural terms, to sit down to years of hard study, and then write 180 volumes as Servius Sulpicius did; yet the farmer may do something to obviate the difficulty during the long winter evenings by endeavoring to familiarize himself with them by careful reading. There is scarce a village in the country which can not furnish some tolerably scientific educated men; let these form themselves with the farmers of their neighborhood into a club to meet once a week for mutual instruction, and in six months they will all acquire knowledge enough of agricultural chemistry and geology, to enable them to fully understand Johnstone, Liebig, and the other writers of the day, and read them with pleasure. We can see no other help for the matter. The terms used in chemistry are just as necessary as to say in describing a cart, this is the tongue, this the tire, the felloe, the hub, the linch-pin, &c.

(*b*) "Saline matters" do not mean salt simply, but may be defined as substances having the composition of salts; that is, formed of a base and acid. Their number is very great; indeed, divided into their various families, they are almost innumerable—one may reckon up several hundred right off. But in agriculture we recognise two classes of salts; those present in the soil and constituting the food of plants, and those giving value to manures. The saline matters of the earth are carbonate of lime and magnesia; sulphate of lime; phosphate of lime, magnesia and iron; silicate of potash, soda, and lime. Other salts are either infrequent, in minute and fluctuating quantities, or of no interest to agriculture. In the whole of Dr. Gardner's communication, the foregoing bodies are clearly designated as the saline matters under consideration. We recommend C. D. to get some one to explain the articles on Tobacco to him. We consider them highly valuable; yet regret to say, that although of paramount interest to the tobacco-grower, there is not probably one in a hundred but will turn away from the scientific terms in these articles with disdain, and leave them unread, when they ought faithfully to study them, till complete masters of the subject. By so doing they may derive thousands of dollars of benefit

from what Dr. Gardner has so briefly written upon tobacco. While we would recommend to all writers upon agriculture to use the plainest and most simple language possible to convey their meaning, our readers must not complain if we occasionally get them "flabbergasted with a flood of technicalities;" hoping, thereby, if no other result comes of it, that we may "pique" them to become more intelligent farmers, if not learned men.

(*c*) The common dictionaries very imperfectly explain scientific terms, and for this purpose it would be well for every agriculturist to possess Johnson's Farmer's Encyclopedia, a work of about 1200 pages, double columns, octavo. But as the cost of this ($4) is rather more than many can afford, it is Dr. Gardner's intention to soon publish a cheap little work, familiarly explaining the scientific terms of agriculture.

"Ammonia," says Johnson, "was first prepared in the east from camel's dung. It is known in commerce under the name of *hartshorn, sal volatile*, &c., and is prepared by the dry or destructive distillation of animal substances. It is composed of:

Hydrogen, - - -	0.125
Azote or Nitrogen, - -	1.75

"Fresh urine contains phosphate of ammonia, muriate of ammonia, and lactate of ammonia, and there is perhaps no fertilizer more powerful in its effects than this."

Johnson devotes three broad pages of his work to an explanation of ammonia, its effects on vegetation, &c., &c. How was it possible, then, for Dr. Gardner, in writing his essays on tobacco, to do more than make use of the word, presupposing that his readers understood what he meant? He might with as much propriety be called upon to define the word "tobacco," itself. We will farther add, that ammonia is found strongly *perfuming* the air of a horse-stable and privies, especially if closely confined; rising up from manure heaps and decaying animal matter; at gas-works, &c., &c.; for all which information, ladies who carry *hartshorn* in smelling bottles, will not probably thank us for detailing; yet if it will only cause them to throw the vile, unhealthy things aside, we shall be glad; for we have no more affection for the smelling bottle than we have for the segar or tobacco pipe.

(*d*) Perhaps C. D. may not be aware of it, but we have often heard certain hard-fisted farmers complain quite as much about plain, practical articles, as others do about scientific ones. They say on reading them, "Well, you have told us nothing new now; we were aware of all that simple business before; you can't teach us anything from books, no how."

(*e*) It is a superb plant, full grown, and bears a handsome flower; but here ends our admiration of it, and we wish we could say that we had never seen it snuffed, or chewed, or had its noxious smoke puffed into the air we are often obliged to inhale. It is a thoroughly disgusting weed after being dried, used in any way or form; and we wish that our lot had been cast forward to live in a more refined age, when the loathsome thing, as we hope, will be utterly abominated, and the millions which are now spent in the filthy habits of smoking, chewing, and snuffing, will be appropriated to enlighten the minds and reform the hearts of our people, and thus better fit them for a pleasurable, moral, and intellectual existence.

(*f*) In what C. D. says here we perfectly agree with him, and writers who use far-fetched or uncommon words to express their ideas, when more simple ones would better answer their purpose, remind us of the high-flown language of a certain lady, who thus reproved a gentleman for saying, "You know, madam, that you can not make a purse out of a sow's ear."

"Oh, sir, please fan me! I have intimations of a swoon! When you use that odious specimen of vulgarity again, why don't you clothe it in a more refined phraseology? You should have said, it is impossible to fabricate a pecuniary receptacle from the auricular organ of the softer sex of the genus *sus*."

The London Punch thus humorously hits off learned terms in his "Farmer's First Lesson in Chemistry:"

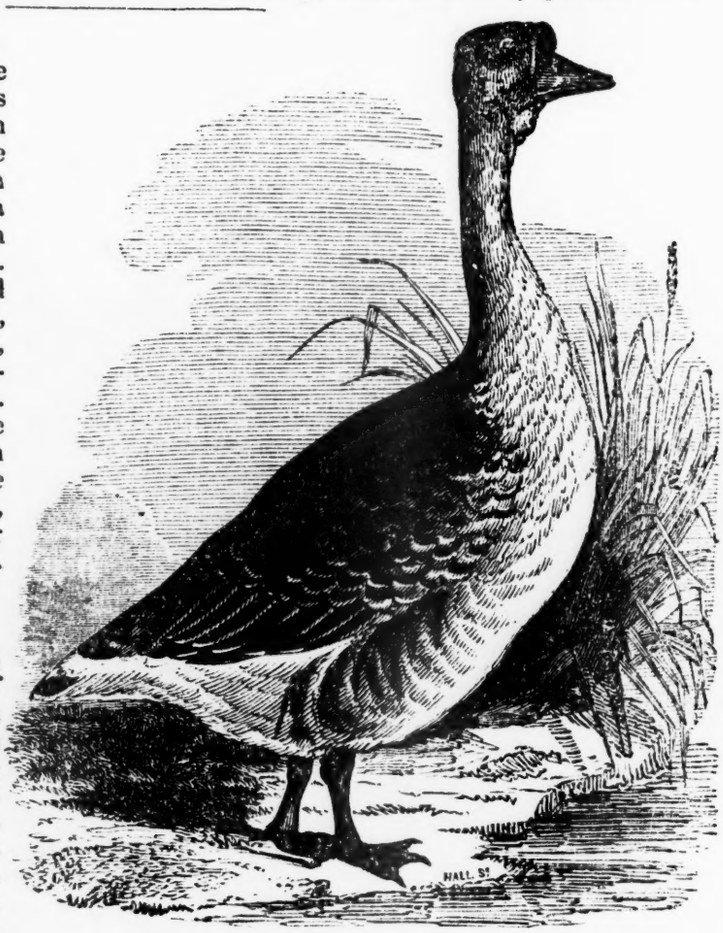
"Chemistry is keepun' a doctor's shop. An atom is a mossel o' zummut; a bit o' dust or zand, loike. The weight of an atom is the heft on him. Light is accordun as it med be; day-light, moonlight, or candle-light. Heat is that are as come out o' the vire. The effect of heat is, rooastun' mate, bilin' 'taters; burning your vingers if you gets too cloase to 't. Lightnin' is a thunderbolt fallin' out o' the clouds; a thunderbolt is a thing like a clinker. An acid is any sort o' zour stuff, like vinegar or varjus. An alkali is a foreigneerun' name vor zummut or other, may be for a *pig!* Potash is ashes from *under a pot!* Soda is stuff as washer-women uses. Ammonia is one o' them fine names as your gentlefolks gives their darters. If you puts zulphuric acid to lime, and makes zulphate o' lime, why, of coorse, if you adds it to wuts (*oats*) you gets zulphate o' wuts. A simple body means a zimpleton, like Zilly Billy at the Poorus. The laws of Chemical Union is like the laws of any other Union, pretty strictish, and o' coorse every Chemical Union has got a Beadle. Chemical Affinity, Attraction, Cohesion, Composition, Decomposition, Analysis, Synthesis, is a parcel of outlandish gibberish. Justus Liebig is zome Vrenchman," [or as others assert, in great wrath, Liebig is a—Big-lie.—Ed.]

There, we think Mr. Punch, in his witty caricature, has pretty well revenged our correspondent upon all agricultural chemistry.

(*g*) As to the enormous rates of postage, we go the whole length with C. D. against them, and have frequently expressed ourselves in the strongest terms on this subject in the former volumes of our work. We say, *abolish the franking privilege entirely*—not even allowing the President of the United States, or any of his Secretaries, or the Postmaster General, to frank a single line. Next, reduce the charges of letters to the lowest possible rates at which they can be carried, which we now think might be 5 cents for 250 miles; 10 cents for 500 miles; and so on, 5 cents extra for every 250 additional miles. Then whatever postage should

be fairly charged by the different officers of the government, let the same be paid out of the United States Treasury. The franking privilege is the great curse of the country, and seven eighths of the weight of the mails during the session of Congress, is taken up with printed matter; too much of which is miserable dull stuff, or vile, lying political documents, franked by some demagogue to subserve his own selfish purposes. We believe now that the people are pretty thoroughly aware of this, and will rise in their might at the coming session of Congress, to compel the reform which has so long been denied them. Let them send in their petitions from every quarter.

GUINEA GOOSE.



Guinea or African Goose—Fig. 58.

This is the largest of the goose tribe which has fallen under our notice; it is of the size of the swan, and it often weighs more than 25 pounds. We have now in our possession one pair which we purchased for a gentleman in South Carolina, which will weigh in common ordinary condition, over 20 pounds each. We once owned a gander that weighed 24 pounds. They are a noble bird, quite ornamental about the premises, and add much to the scenery, particularly if a sheet of water be near. When floating on its surface they have a stately majestic appearance, and in their movements they much resemble the swan. They have a low, hollow, coarse voice, unlike that of any other variety.—[*Bement's Poulterer's Comp.*

YOUNG ORCHARDS.

These should stand for many years in plowed ground, which gives them, if well cared for, a rapid and vigorous growth. If they do not bear so soon as you desire, from the too strong pushing out of wood, do not resort to *root pruning*, as some recommend, which I consider an expensive, useless, and injurious operation; but lay down your orchard land at once into grass. This will effectually check the rapidity of its growth, and set the trees in bearing. The grass, binding down the surface, and checking the activity of the roots, will at once change the action of the sap, and set the buds into fruit immediately. Such, without going into the chemical reason of the process, is my experience from actual trial.

I have the past spring had inserted about 3,000 grafts. Nearly 500 of them were put into the branches of trees from 4 to 9 inches diameter in the body, which I removed from a scattered plantation into an orchard; 500 more into stocks of 1 to 2 inches diameter, newly planted out; and the remainder into stocks from 1 to 2 inches through, sawed off at the root and planted into nursery rows for future use, all intended for my own planting, and mostly the best kind of winter apples. The stocks are, to appearance, all alive and growing well. The season has been quite favorable, being very wet. I have no doubt of my success. In every instance the stock was sawed off, and split down, one or two grafts inserted according to size of stock, or limb, well waxed, and left to go on its way rejoicing. The grafters charge from 1½ to 2 cents per scion for doing it—a round price to be sure; but one had better pay it and have the work well done, than to do it himself in a bungling manner. Grafting, however, is so simple a process, that every farmer should understand it. It will save him much trouble and expense, and give him abundance of good fruit.

Putnam.

MECHANICS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

I have found many, if not most of the mechanics in this State own a little land—some more and some less. They keep a cow, a couple of hogs to make them family pork, raise all their garden vegetables, and as much corn as they want to use of this kind of grain, usually getting at the rate of a hundred bushels per acre, and much fine fruit. Some of their land pays them the interest of $1,000 an acre, over and above all outlays. I saw a limb of a quince tree, 19 inches long, not larger than one's little finger, on which I found quinces of the largest size. I have seen some of these grounds which would do credit to a gentleman living on his money. Occasionally they are em-

bellished with a green-house, and everything in and about their houses is neat and clean; and instead of decanters of cider, brandy, gin, and New England rum, as formerly, you find their side-tables covered with books, and among them frequently two or more agricultural papers. Their sensible conversation gives abundant evidence of having read these faithfully; nor are they indifferent to the state or county agricultural shows. This propensity extends to journeymen as well as to masters. Two young men had engaged to make and deliver two cases of men's stout shoes, commonly called brogans, of 30 pairs in each case, and they had only six days to do them in. (*a*) The Worcester county agricultural show was to be held on the fifth day, yet such was their anxiety to attend it that they finished the shoes, averaging 15 per day, and delivered them in Worcester on the fifth day morning, took their pay and deposited it in the savings bank, and were as busy and as much interested among the cattle and crops as any of the farmers, making calculations no doubt for a few acres of land, a snug cottage, and what is still better, a wife to adorn it and make them a happy home. A TRAVELLER.

(*a*) The leather for these shoes is prepared by cutting it out of the sides of both upper and sole leather, and rolling the sole instead of the old custom of hammering it upon a lapstone; then cramping both uppers and unders in proper shape to put together, which is understood to be making or finishing the shoes as above stated.

ODD ROWS OF CORN.

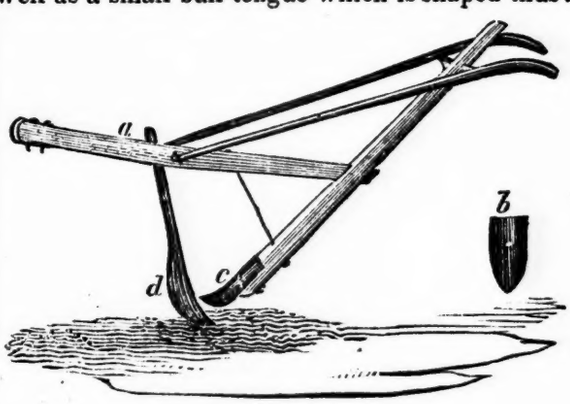
You request some of your Ohio correspondents to inform you whether you were correct in supposing you had seen ears of corn with 8 to 24 rows. Undoubtedly. This is no uncommon thing even in this latitude, 41°, 30′, considerably south of the "Miama and Scioto Valleys." My father has raised a great deal of the corn noticed by J. S. S.—the "yellow gourd seed;" and I have counted hundreds of ears that had 24 rows. Corn generally (not always) has 8, 12, 18, or 24 rows, but always an *even* number. What J. S. S. states is true in every particular. Sometimes rows will stop one third, and sometimes two thirds of the distance (more or less) from the butt end of the ear; but always two rows will stop together—not two adjoining rows, but rows usually on opposite sides of the ear. They terminate with a three-cornered kernel, neatly fitted to the kernels of the adjoining rows which converge and extend on. And the same is true of ears that enlarge toward the top end, sometimes to 40 rows. I have seen ears that lost some of their rows, say at a distance of one third, and then resumed them, and even added more near the top and, thus showing the effect of the season (or something else) upon different parts of the ear, but always, I repeat, with *even* rows. We used to save our seed from ears that had this increase at the top end; but I can not speak positively as to any beneficial results, because it was not compared with any other plan. I only know we had many such ears, but whether from the influence of the *seed* or the *season* I can not say. The idea of "21" rows on an ear is remarkable for nothing except its being an odd number. And for this I must think Mr. Allen mistaken, even though he "counted them *twice*." Such an ear would certainly be a curiosity to one who is in the habit of observing nature's operations. T.

Ohio, August, 1844.

SOUTHERN AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

NO. II.

Tending Cotton.—The first implement required after the ground has been well broken up by the plow, and made free from clods when necessary, by the harrow, is something to open a wide shallow furrow, or more properly a drill, to receive the cotton seed. Various openers are used for this purpose, but I have seen nothing which answers so well as a small bull-tongue which is shaped thus:



BULL TONGUE PLOW—FIG. 59

a is the plow; *b* the bull tongue, 7 inches by 4, and formed slightly scooping, and fastened to the share by a bolt passing through the hole at *c*.

And here I may explain to you, that this simple implement is one of the very best, and most generally useful that I have ever seen, and in very common use, in its different varieties, both in the south and west. The shovel, only, differs in size and form. For breaking up ground, for which it is preferred by a great many, the shovel is made large, and shaped more like the letter V, the wings, as in all shovels, falling off, the shovel being ridged in the middle. A coulter set in the usual way is frequently added, and is a valuable addition. To form the *jumping shovel*, a sharp, rounding-faced coulter is set in, as represented at *d*.* For opening a furrow to plant corn, and for running round corn at its first tending, a long, narrow bull-tongue is used, with a coulter to steady it. Our friend Major Winston, of Newport, Ky., uses the common large shovel exclusively in tending his corn, and makes excellent crops—an argument it seems, against *surface culture*.

The seed, when scattered in this furrow (almost

* This form (the jumping shovel) is invaluable for breaking up new cane land, and indeed, in new land of any kind that is full of roots. It cuts a great majority of them, and when it comes to one that is too large, it slips over, and instantly enters again.

always, by the way, in too great quantity,) is covered by a triangular, wooden-toothed harrow, with a roller attached. This roller should be of cast iron, at least 12 or 14 inches in diameter, and some 18 inches long, and will weigh perhaps 150 lbs. This may be considered by some as too heavy: but they must bear in mind that the greater the diameter, the greater the extent of surface upon which it rests, and therefore the weight must be increased proportionably. The advantages of increased diameter are the great lessening of draft to the horse, and the application of a more direct perpendicular pressure. The roller may be so cast as that its weight may be increased for light sandy land, and very dry weather, by being filled with sand or mortar. Few complain, even this year, of a poor stand, who have used such rollers or their equivalent.

When the young plant bears from two to four leaves, it is *cut out* or *scraped* to a *double stand*, leaving plants at half the distance they are intended ultimately to stand, and scraping the sides of the ridge clear of the young weeds and grass. This is most commonly done with the hoe. Some use what they call *scrapers*, which I find greatly facilitate the work. Unfortunately I have not one at hand to copy from, and I am not artist enough to give you a sketch without.

Previous to scraping, whether with the hoe or scraper, it is customary to *bar-off* with a plow, casting a furrow from the cotton on each side, and generally within four to six inches of the plants. When there has been much rain, or the ridge is very foul, this is indispensable; but in such a season as this, I think it a ruinous practice. To enter upon this subject would lead me off too far from the one now in hand. I would just advise planters and overseers to examine the roots of a plant of cotton, at this age, and see what a small proportion the top roots bear to the horizontal ones, and to what a distance these last extend, and *especially in a dry season*, and they will be very careful how they permit those roots to be laid bare.

To *dirt* the cotton, as it is termed, after cutting out, a common turning plow is generally used. I am now using double half-shovel plows, warmly recommended to me by Dr. Phillips, and Mr. Hamilton, spoken of above. Dr. P. sent me one to work from, and with the aid of an ingenious mechanic in my employment, Mr. Dubois, I have had a lot made, with *cast* shovels, of which I have tried to make you a sketch, but can not succeed to my mind. They consist simply of two cast mould-boards, with points, cast all in one, but no land-side, and are stocked like a shovel plow, the beam being made broad enough to have two chips or uprights attached, the one behind the other, to each of which is bolted, with a single bolt, one of the shovels spoken of. Each shovel cuts about seven inches, the plow thus clearing about sixteen inches, and throwing a little mellow dirt very nicely to the young cotton plant. During a wet season, when crab grass (or crop grass) grows with such rapidity as to form a pretty good sod between each tending of the crop, this implement does good work. I find, however, I am carrying this epistle to too great length, and will merely add, that I have succeeded in having the single shovel, or bull-tongue, made of cast iron; the sweep and cultivator teeth all doing excellent work. My cultivator teeth I consider a decided improvement.

Trial of Plows.—Since writing the preceding, I have had another trial of plows. I was breaking up a piece of ground, part of an old field, which had lain some three years undisturbed, during which time it had been trodden by stock in all weathers. That ground I have just planted in corn and peas. My first planted corn having *shown its silks* the 21st of May, I had three plows running—Ruggles, Nourse, & Mason's Eagle plow, with a pair of horses; Hall's No. 2, and Sloop's No. 2, each drawn by a pair of mules. I was with them three fourths of the time during three days, with foot-rule in hand, making frequent measurements and notes. I may rate the entire average furrow of the Eagle at 12½ by 6½ inches; the Hall and Sloop each at 8 by 6 inches—the Eagle running perfectly steady, and leaving the plowman nothing to do—the others jumping out and in, varying greatly in their work, and throwing out large *chunks*, as the plowman expressed it, every now and then. The Sloop plow required least draft, *decidedly*, next Hall's, and last the Eagle. Hall's is the best tending and ridging plow. I found the draft of the Eagle plow much increased and that of either of the others proportionably diminished, when I permitted one of them to follow the Eagle plow round, depriving it of the advantage it gains by cutting out some inch or two of earth from under the next furrow. I should say that the Eagle plow was made specially with an eye to being drawn by oxen, as the quick walk of my horses caused it to turn its furrow badly, now and then. I have broken up a piece of stiff Bermuda grass sod in fine style with this plow—a thing I could not have done with any other plow I have.

I have said this much of Messrs. R., N., & M.'s Eagle plow, because it is the first really *first-rate* implement I have had in my hand in the south. That there are others equally good I think quite likely, but I must see them together to be satisfied of the fact. You speak of the subsoil plow of the same makers. I find that my cast bull-tongue, run after a good plow, and drawn by a good team, makes quite a good subsoil plow. Stir up your makers of plows and other implements, not forgetting Bachelder's Planter, to send on specimens to our fall trial. Ship to Wm. J. Minor, Esq., the President of our Society, so as to reach here by the 15th October, *at latest*. They will reach us, of course, free of charge, or at at all events with instructions to pay charges out of price of implement, if sold. Full justice shall be done everything that is sent. I should like to have a good small woodcut, or cast of cut, with each implement. You shall have a full report of the trial. Please let us know if a perfect, or good dynamometer is yet made, by whom, and the price.*

THOMAS AFFLECK.

Ingleside, Miss., June, 1844.

*We know of no really good dynamometer which can be depended upon, and shall be obliged if any of our readers can inform us.—[ED.

CLAY LAND FOR GRASS.

THERE is an unwarrantable prejudice existing among our farmers generally, against clay soils, although when well situated, and properly managed, they are universally acknowledged as the best for wheat, and for grass. I have had some experience in this matter, and as I speak, like Othello, "only of what I do know," I will state a few facts which have occurred under my own eye.

You know that the beautiful position you lately occupied on the Niagara river, three miles below my own residence, is now owned by Dr. Lyman, who purchased it last year. This farm is a stiff, unyielding clay; its only objection to any one desiring a delightful country residence. When you came into its possession, it had been for years "deviled over"—(a very significant phrase)—and the fields yielded only a miserable bite of blue-grass *(poa pratensis)*, moss, and fivefingers. These fields were plowed up at once by you, and put into a rotation of root and grain crops, and fed with a small quantity of manure from the stables and piggery, and as soon as leveled, and laid into suitable lands, seeded down to grass—a mixture of clover and timothy. I was there the other day, and looked over the grounds. They have had no top-dressings, and but little manure, as I understand, from any quarter. But the grass crops are beautiful. The mowing land will cut from one and a half to two and a half tons to the acre, and of the finest quality; free from weeds and foul stuff of any kind. The soil is almost a dead level, and all that has been done was to throw the land into beds, or ridges, say fifteen to thirty feet wide, with the plough, and carry off the falling water into the natural ravines by the same process. *(a)*

I know no good reason why this land will not, with either the after-math occasionally left for a winter covering, and top-dressing, or a slight coat of stable manure, say ten cords to the acre, once in four or five years, applied either in the early spring, or immediately after mowing in summer (I like the latter best, as the wheels are apt to cut the soil in the spring), last an interminable time in grass, and yield the finest crops. Many fields of like character in the neighborhood have produced grass abundantly for years, without either top-dressing or manure of any kind, and under the worst possible management. An instance I give you:—the Morehead farm, just below your late residence, has long been neglected. It has been regularly mowed every summer (and yet at this time has a crop of one and a half tons to the acre standing upon it), and immediately afterward, cattle have been turned upon it, gnawing it down to the ground before winter. Still it yields well. The soil is a stiff clay. On this place, eight or ten years ago, was a brick-yard. After two or three years' working, it was abandoned, by merely discontinuance, the old clay-pits, the brick-bed for drying, &c., left, and not even the miserable spiked rollers with which the clay was mixed, were removed. The old drying-bed, in particular, stood conspicuous for several years, a dry, red, arid object, packed as hard as pounding, rolling, and a continuous tramping of years could make it, and the subsequent neglect of the "skinning" tenants would permit. In three or four years, however, the timothy and clover began to show, coming from seed lodged by the wind, or by cattle lying upon it. The result is, this old brick-bed, lying high and dry (for it had to be made so to dry the brick), has been for several years past the *most productive* piece of grass ground within my knowledge. Every year when we have a fair quantity of rain, it yields at the rate of two to three tons to the acre. The patch is, perhaps, a quarter of an acre in extent. I passed it yesterday, and although not fit to cut for a fortnight to come, it is lodging with its overgrowth; and the surrounding grounds have a crop of full one and a half tons to the acre, and not a spoonful of manure has been put upon any part of it, but what the cattle have dropped in feeding on it. So of all the lands in the vicinity—a stiff, clay soil; and, shame to their owners! a single soul of whom does not reside there, leaving the farms to be skinned and "deviled" over for the past twenty years. I really do not know of so good a speculation as these lands would be to enterprising farmers, who would come and purchase them at fifteen to twenty dollars the acre, as they may be had, and all too, within six to ten miles from the centre of the populous city of Buffalo, fronting on the Erie canal. But "the west" is all the rage; and when the emigrant once starts "from the east," no temptation will stop him short of his cherished *El Dorado* in Wisconsin, or Iowa; even Ohio, Michigan, or anything short of the extreme west, although millions of acres of their good land are yet unsettled, are also passed over, having become "an obsolete idea."

But to the clay soils. I much doubt whether we have, in America, ascertained the true value of these lands. The farm I cultivate, although of considerable extent, has a diversity of soil, consisting of sandy and gravelly loams, clayey loam, and a red, stiff clay. I have ploughed and cultivated them all. The sandy and gravelly loams work the easiest and freest; they are better for roots, that is, in the working. So are they the easiest plowed; but they require the most manure, and retain its virtues the shortest time. The clayey loams are decidedly the strongest, and without manure yield well for many years, both grain, grass and roots, and with a slight sprinkling of dung throw up a heavy crop, and retain its benefits for years; while the stronger and unyielding clays, in good seasons, when full plowed and properly treated, yield good crops of grains, but laid into grass, produce both pasturage and mowing unsurpassed in quality and luxuriance. Nothing but long and severe droughts affect them. They then crack, and the grass ceases to grow; but a slight rain reinvigorates them, and they produce *more* bountifully than any other lands within my knowledge.

This, however, is a secondary and a limestone region. Our soils are mixed, more or less, with lime, rendering them strong and enduring; yet I have little doubt that the clay soils generally in the United States and the Canadas are both productive, and permanent grass lands; and with proper care and attention, and that of the cheapest kind, will yield more in proportion to their gen-

erally estimated value than any other lands in the country. Let me give another instance:—I have a small piece of heavy clay land near my residence, say three or four acres. Before I came into possession of it, some seven years ago, it had been miserably neglected. It produced nothing but moss, fivefingers, and strawberries, and was gnawed to the very dirt by horses and hogs. It had *never been plowed*, but was well situated to drain. I drew one or two slight ditches through it with the plow, scattered some hay chaff over it, spread over a tolerable coating of stable manure, and ever since it has annually yielded two to three tons of hay to the acre, growing so stout that I have usually had to cut it before it was properly ripe, because of its lodging.

I have been told that much of the fine grazing and extensive county of York, in England, as well as the principal parts of Durham and Northumberland, adjoining, are heavy clays. *(b)* These are the great grazing counties, where the massive Short Horns are bred in the highest perfection; where thousands of Scotch cattle are annually grazed by the farmers; and the enormous dray-horse and Cleveland bays of England are produced. These, too, are the most northerly counties of England, and severe in their climates; yet their pastures are the most productive. And these heavy soils, I learn, were among the last to be appreciated; but when their value was ascertained, they at once took rank in value with the most favored soils of the kingdom. Will it not be so with the clays of America? Let them be analyzed, their constituent parts ascertained, and I have little doubt, in process of time, with the aid of right cultivation, and cheap, yet friendly stimulants, these, to many disagreeable and repulsive soils, will become among the most desirable and profitable in our country. L. F. Allen.

Black Rock, June 26, 1844.

(a) In addition to laying up the land in beds, with wide open furrows left between them, wherever any spot was so low as to retain the surface water, we made with the plow and road-scraper, an open ditch from such low spot to the main ravines running through the farm, for the purpose of drawing off the standing water.

(b) Parts of these counties contain the stiffest clay soil we ever saw cultivated, except in the low grounds of Staffordshire. In our drier climate, we are confident no crop except hay could be profitably grown upon them; and even in England, they pay much better to be kept constantly in grass. We examined lands of this description which had been kept in grass for centuries, and they were among the finest and most productive meadows that ever fell under our observation. It is considered fatal to break them up for hoed or grain crops, and then re-seed; for it would take a century to restore the grass to its present state of perfection. We were shown different fields of grass which had been broken up and re-seeded, twenty, forty, sixty, and one hundred years ago, and the difference in the quality and product of grass in them was very great. The longer they remained in grass the better they grew.

ADVICE—FINDING FAULT.

It is the province of an old man to give advice and find fault. First, then, for advice: purchase no more land than you can make productive. Land doubles its first cost, on an average, once in nine to eleven years, by reckoning compound interest on first cost, together with taxes and other contingent expenses; so that if you pay $10 per acre for your farm, in ten years it will stand you in $20; in twenty years, $40; in thirty years, $80; and in forty years, $160 per acre! I mean on that part of it which is *unproductive*. What an enormous sum! and how few think of it who are ambitious to be the owners of large tracts of land without regarding the profits of its cultivation!

It has been a principle laid down in British husbandry, in renting their estates, that "no land be intrusted in the hands of men who have not capital, skill, and industry, to cultivate them with profit to themselves and the community; nor to suffer any man, let his capital be what it may, to hold more land than he can personally superintend, so as to pay the requisite regard to the minutiæ of cultivation." But in this country, it may be said, it is far otherwise than in England; land is bought here for the purpose of making an investment of money, looking for a profit on the rise of it. Understand, however, that I am not giving advice to speculators, nor writing for their benefit. I have known $2 per acre paid for land forty years ago, and the land is now in the same family, and could, not be sold at this time for that price; and many an instance have I known where families have been land-ridden all their lives, and kept poor by purchases made on speculation. But this has nothing to do with my present purpose; speculation has had, and always will have its votaries and victims.

I now proceed to find a little fault.

My business called me, a few days since, to visit a farm containing about 300 acres of cleared land. The barn was a noble one; in the yard of which was deposited, as near as I could judge, one thousand loads of well-rotted manure. While standing and gazing with astonishment at such a sight, an ox-wagon with two large yoke of oxen attached, was driven through it into the barn, to take on a load of grain, the wheels sinking nearly to the hub, and the oxen up to their knees. I found, on inquiry, that this had been accumulating *four* years, and the heaps of manure all round the barn were in such piles as to make it difficult any longer to pass the dung from the stable through the windows.

From the barn I passed over a considerable part of the farm, by which I was convinced that the land was not suffering for *want of manure*, for such clusters of burdocks I have never before seen! The stalks at the root were nearly as large round as "a piece of chalk" (and as much larger as my readers may please to imagine), while the branches were sufficiently spread to shelter calves and sheep; and the way their hair and wool were burred up was a caution! The noxious weeds in many places were equally prolific; and then the way the sprouts were shooting up from the old stumps, would have *cheered* the heart of any one who is

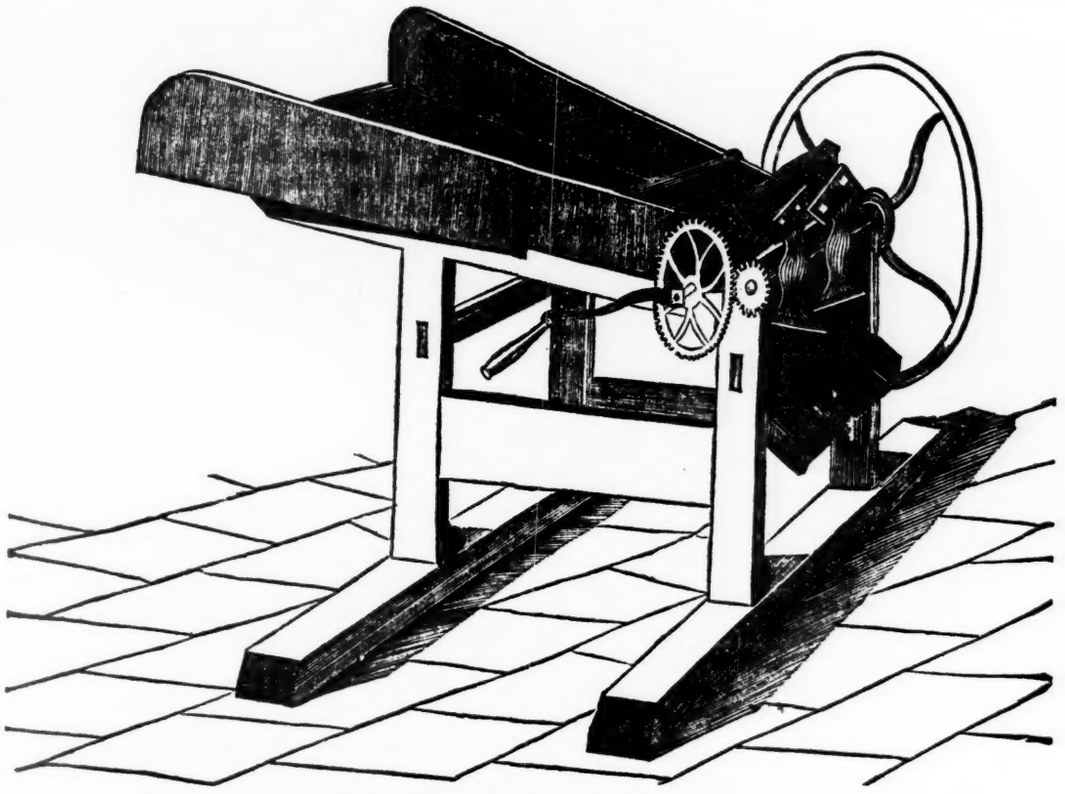
fearful that this country is going to be short of wood in a few years. More than two hundred tons of good English hay have been cut upon this farm in a single year, and pasturage had the same season in proportion, and equally abundant crops of grain; but the meadows now are running into spear and other grasses, and many acres are not worth mowing. There are two farms adjoining in a far worse condition. I need not say, they all belong to non-residents, and the tenants have their own way of managing them.

OCTOGENARIAN.

BOTTS' STRAW-CUTTER.

I AM much obliged to you for the kind offer contained in your note of the 9th, and most gladly avail myself of the opportunity afforded by your popular journal, to extend a knowledge of the merits of my straw-cutter. I herewith send you a pretty faithful illustration of the implement.

The history of the cutter is simply this:—As a practical farmer, I felt the need of a simple and efficient cutter, that should come within the capacity of a common laborer. I purchased a great variety, consisting, of course, of those of most



BOTTS' STRAW-CUTTER—FIG. 60.

celebrity; and while I found many that operated sufficiently well as they came from the hands of the manufacturer, I met with none that retained its capabilities in the hands of the common farm laborer. I moreover remarked, that the instrument usually began to depreciate just after the first grinding and readjustment of the knives. I therefore set my wits to work, to see if I could not devise a knife, the feeding apparatus of which should be simple and permanent, and the knives of which should be readily ground and adjusted by the commonest capacity. These two points I thought were to be desired, even if they could be obtained only at the expense of a little facility and rapidity of execution. After much expense of time and money—more, I fear, than I shall ever be repaid for—I flatter myself I have obtained these objects; and I have also been fortunate enough to combine with them, if not the greatest rapidity, certainly sufficient speed of operation to satisfy the most impatient temperament. The feeding apparatus is, I believe, the most perfect and durable I ever saw. In four years' experience I have never known it deranged in the slightest degree. The cutting part consists of four knives, about four inches square, as flat and straight, and as easily ground, as a plane iron. In short, without wishing to disparage other cutters, many of which have great merits, and some, too, that I can not claim for mine, I think I do not arrogate too much when I say, that this knife is better adapted to the farm laborer, of the *south* at least, than any other in use. At any rate, I can procure certificates, if necessary, from hundreds of the best farmers in Virginia, bearing me out in this opinion.

Mr. Ellsworth, the Commissioner of Patents, advised me several years ago to patent this knife in England. He has had one in use for several years, and I know entertains the highest opinion of it; although motives of delicacy prevented me from asking, as it would undoubtedly prevent him from giving, a certificate of the value of any implement in his office. It was only yesterday that Mr. Stevenson, the ex-minister to England, who, I assure you, sir, deserves to rank as high in your esteem and mine, for his devotion to agriculture, as he does among the statesmen of America as a politician, not only advised, but urged me to

take this cutter to England, in the kindest manner offering me letters to his friends there; being pleased to say, that such an improvement in agricultural implements would, of itself, afford me an introduction to Lord Spencer, more potent than a letter from any diplomatist in Europe.

I have now, in pursuance of your suggestion, made this statement with respect to this knife. If you think it will add to the gratification or instruction of your readers, you are at liberty to publish so much of it as seems meet unto you.

C. T. Botts.

Richmond, Va., Aug., 1844.

We take great pleasure in saying, that we have examined the above straw-cutter of Mr. Botts, and think it the best contrived for the southern States of any that has yet come under our notice. It combines great strength with simplicity, and is just the thing to be placed with the careless hands on a plantation. Mr. B. expressed the fear that it might not be strong enough to cut the large corn-stalks of the south. We have none whatever on this score, provided they do not exceed *three* inches in diameter, and are not over *twenty* feet high, as a gentleman, when we were on the Mississippi, *modestly* assured us they thus grew to shelter "bar" (bear), like a cane-brake in Arkansas. Mr. Freeborn of this city has the above cutters for sale—price $27 50.

FRUIT GARDEN OF DR. RHINELANDER.

On a recent visit to Dr. Rhinelander, of Huntington, L. I., I found so much of successful experiment in the cultivation of fruit, that I deem it scarcely fair that horticulturists should remain in ignorance of his exertions. The Doctor having, a few years since, exhausted the field of medicine, and imparted his varied knowledge to a numerous class of pupils, retired to his present residence, and turned his attention wholly to the study of horticulture, and more particularly to the cultivation of grapes and stone fruits, the latter well known as subject to several diseases. Having but little previous knowledge of fruit culture, he studied it as a science founded on correct principles, and of his entire knowledge of those principles, his great success is the best evidence.

He treated his trees as he did his patients. He could not, it is true, give them calomel, jalop, or salts, but he purged them in an equally effective way; and so thoroughly has this cathartic treatment driven disease from them, that he is enabled to fruit plums, peaches, nectarines, and apricots, with as much ease as apples or pears. His soil is admirably adapted to the cultivation of those fruits, being of a gravelly nature, with a porous subsoil.

It is a generally admitted fact, that all plants discharge from their roots more or less excrementory matter, which, if left in the soil, is decidedly injurious to the plant from which it came,* although frequently beneficial to others. It is from this cause that successive crops of grain, or any other product, from the same soil, produce poorly, and that a proper rotation of crops is deemed indispensibly necessary to the success of every farmer. The plum and its kindred fruits discharge far more of this matter than the apple or the pear, and are therefore far more likely to be injured by its superabundance in the soil. A rich, heavy mould, or retentive soil, prevents its escape, while a porous, gravelly soil will allow the rain to pass through it freely, and wash away all offensive matter. As Dr. R.'s soil was of this porous nature, he had no difficulty of this kind to contend with, and directed his attention to other equally important points. The curculio is well known as the most serious enemy to the plum, peach, apricot, and nectarine. To put an end to their destructive ravages, Dr. R. uses clam and oyster shells, small stones, and similar materials, to make a hard, compact surface around the body of the tree, and as far as the branches extend. The benefit of this is obvious; the curculio deposites its eggs in the fruit, just beneath the epidermis, the worm from which makes its way to the stone, and along it to the stem, which when it reaches, the fruit falls, with the worm, to the ground. This hard, compact surface of shells, &c., prevents the worm, as it issues from the fruit, finding its way into the earth, there to remain until the next season brings it forth in the shape of a fly, to renew its depredations on the fruit. Having thus left the fruit, the worm finds no way to enter the earth, and is soon destroyed by the heat of a summer's sun. It is for this reason that stone fruits, which many find it impossible to perfect in this part of the country, succeed so well in New York, where a hard pavement surrounds the tree.

Having thus placed the trees in a condition to perfect the fruit when produced, Dr. R. endeavored to discover the most effective mode of rendering them very productive. For this purpose he has successfully adopted the *en quenouille* mode of training, and other ways of bending the branches of the tree from their natural position, that the sap, being furnished by the root faster than the unnaturally twisted limbs can dissipate it, becomes thick and forms flower instead of leaf-buds. I saw one plum-tree, about as thick as a man's finger, with two branches forking off and trained horizontally about a foot from the ground, which were studded with plums of rich and healthy appearance. He also practises a judicious system of summer pruning, which he finds far more important than winter pruning, inasmuch as the sap of the tree is thus economized and directed to the formation of fruit. His success is not with the plum alone; his peaches are as fine and healthy as I ever saw in New Jersey or Delaware. The apricots were equally promising; and the nectarines, which it is generally deemed impossible to perfect in the open air, show as fine an appearance as any cultivated under glass. Many of his trees had died after being planted several years, and he attributes it to their having been inoculated on peach stocks. Too much care can not be taken on this point. The peach is, comparatively, a short-

* We have seen this doubted latterly, if we recollect right, by no less an authority than Professor Lindley of England; also, by German vegetable physiologists.—Ed.

lived stock, and those who plant plum, apricot, and nectarine trees budded upon it, will frequently lose their trees just as they commence bearing. English gardeners will not use even the peach inoculated on the peach stock, and universally reject the plum, apricot, and nectarine, inoculated in that way. The peach stock is not only short-lived, but is preyed upon by a worm which does not attack the plum stock, and is frequently destroyed by its ravages. Dr. R. has also lost a number of trees by electrical changes in the atmosphere.

His vineries are perhaps more extensive than any in the state, and are constructed in a very cheap, but necessarily rough style. They are made of wood, each about one hundred feet long and twelve wide, with brick flues. The glass is at an angle of about 30°, and the vines are trained up the rafters, four or five inches from the glass. They are very thrifty and luxuriant, and filled with large bunches of the Black Hamburg, Muscat of Alexandria, and other fine varieties. He has a new variety of volute grape, which he has found perfectly hardy, and to mature its fruit well in the most exposed situations. It is very similar to the Muscadine in appearance and flavor, and will undoubtedly prove a valuable acquisition to our stock of hardy grapes. Dr. R. is also adopting, with every prospect of success, the plan of putting vines and stone fruits in pots. I shall endeavor to learn from him his success, and shall, in a measure, follow his example, and test under glass all our varieties of peach, plum, apricot, and nectarine. Dr. R.'s general success is such, that no lover of good fruit may despair of obtaining all that he desires; for when the soil is not suitable it may be made so, and the production will amply repay for the labor. All those who feel an interest in these things, will reap much instruction and pleasure from a visit to Dr. R.'s place, whose success in horticulture is only equalled by his hospitality and kindness; and those of strongly marked peculiarities will find in the Doctor an admiring observer.

S. B. Parsons.

Commercial Garden & Nursery, Flushing, L. I.

Since the above was in type, we too have been highly gratified by a visit to Reinland. It is a charming place, on a hill rising 150 feet from the shore of the inner bay of Huntington, and commands beautiful views of the sound, the opposite coast, and the country around. All that Mr. Parsons says of Doctor Rhinelander's success in raising choice fruits we found more than verified, and such a feast as we had there of the various kinds was a luxury indeed. His George-the-fourth peach is the most delicious we have tasted for years, and we give it the same rank among peaches as the Seckle pear has taken among pears. Then there was a magnificent great juicy peach, all white save slight specks of red, the name unknown, and others too numerous to mention. Several varieties of plums we saw there, large, rich, and juicy, were unknown varieties. The grapes were very fine; and among other things, strawberries, still ripening on the vines—the first week in September. The garden soil is a poor, thin gravel, and notwithstanding Dr. R. has applied little manure to it, the fruit-trees are remarkably thrifty and bear most abundantly. We found the lawn of superior turf, and coated with thick, fine grass. We inquired how this was produced, and were answered by the use of plaster; thus giving another evidence that this salt possesses fertilizing properties in the vicinity of sea water. The Hon. C. C. Cambrelling is a near neighbor of Dr. Rhinelander, and is said to have a beautiful place, which we much regretted we had not time to visit.

TOUR FROM ALABAMA TO TENNESSEE.

I was so fortunate, a day or two past, as to get hold of the August No. of the Agriculturist, and was pleased to observe, that you had received the sample of marl and the sample of cotton I sent you. The opinion given by Dr. Gardner of the value of the marl is the only data we have had as yet, although I have made many efforts to have its value known. I was in hopes that the blue marl would prove the proper manure for our sandy soils, still I have no doubt of the correctness of Dr. Gardner's opinion.

I will now give you some account of our trip from Eufaula, Alabama, to this place, and in doing this I will confine my remarks to such matters as alone relate to agriculture. We set out on the 24th of June. Our route for the first hundred miles was due west, and mostly over a new country. We passed a number of fine cotton farms in the county of Macon, in the neighborhood of Union Springs; indeed, the best cotton we saw on our entire route of 400 miles, was on what is termed the woodland prairie of Macon county, Alabama. On reaching Montgomery county, we passed one of the most beautiful sections of farming country I have ever seen. For 14 miles before reaching the city of Montgomery, it was one continued cotton and corn field—the cotton and corn looked well for the season.

After crossing the Alabama river at the city of Montgomery, our course was due north, until we crossed that bold and beautiful stream, the Tennessee. From Alabama to Tennessee river we saw but little that could interest a farmer; the distance is nearly 200 miles, over a poor, sterile country, except in the vales of the Cahawba and James Valley.

After crossing the Tennessee, we entered on the rich, level lands of Madison county. Perhaps few counties in all the southwest afford more rich and level lands than Madison. From Dillon's Landing to the beautiful town of Huntsville, it was one continued field for the distance of 11 miles, over a macadamized road; and what a pleasurable sensation we felt after having been jolted and tossed from side to side for 300 miles, to strike a perfect pavement—the carriage seemed to move forward without the least effort of the horses. After leaving Madison county, we passed through the county of Franklin, and on entering the state of Tennessee commence the rich lands of the west. In passing from Huntsville to Winchester, the county seat of Franklin, the scenery is most beautiful. The corn crop, which is the principal crop of the state of Tennessee, we found good; the

price of corn generally is 50 cents per barrel, or 10 cents per bushel. We next entered on the still richer lands of the counties of Giles, Murray, Williamson, Davison, Rutherford, and Bedford, and to me, who had been all my life a cultivator of the light soil of the south, I was everywhere struck with the black, rich lands of Middle Tennessee—the fields groaning under the weight of the growing crop of corn—the large, fine cattle roaming over the rich clover fields—and I came to the conclusion, that if the farmers of Tennessee would determine to cultivate *less* land, study agriculture as a science, form agricultural societies, and read agricultural works, that they would be the happiest people in the whole country.

I must before closing mention the beautiful sewing silk made by the interesting and industrious daughters of Col. Nell, in the kind family we have spent the last eight days. One word as to the immense size of the trees of the west. Mr. James M. Shields, residing near Lynnville, lives in a house 46 feet by 18 feet, made out of one tree. I measured a poplar in company with Col. Nell, near his house, which was 25 feet in circumference, and we supposed it was 70 feet to the first limbs! ALEXANDER McDONALD.

Bedford Co., Tenn., Aug. 13, 1844.

CORN FOR SOILING AND FODDER.

I HAD read several accounts of Indian corn sown broadcast for soiling and curing for hay, and I determined to try it. My experiment made last year was conclusive as to the great quantity which can be made on an acre, and as to its value when cured for winter food for cows and horses. None of it was fed in the green state, as I had sufficient pasturage for my stock during the summer and fall months, and therefore I can say nothing about it for soiling from my experience; but I presume that whatever grass makes good hay will answer well for that purpose. There is no other vegetable which will yield so large and nutritive a quantity of dry fodder to the acre. It will produce from 5 to 7 tons to the acre of dry food, if the ground is rich and well prepared.(*a*) The only difficulty is in curing it if the weather should be wet when it is cut, or in cutting it too green.

The ground should be well plowed and thoroughly pulverized with the harrow, and 2½ bushels of seed sown to the acre immediately after the last plowing and harrowing, to get the start of weeds and grass. If the seeds were soaked, so as to come up very quickly, it would be advantageous. Plow in the seed with small plows or cultivators, so as to cover them shallow, and roll the ground. The proper time for sowing here, is between the 25th of April and the 5th of May. Poor land will not do for this crop. It should not be cut before the leaves begin to dry, for it is so succulent that if cut too soon, it will mould in curing. After it is cut, let it lie on the ground if the weather be dry, for several days, and if it can be turned once or twice, so much the better; then tie it in sheaves like oats, and put the sheaves in small shocks as open as possible at the bottom, that the lower part of the stalks may dry thoroughly. The dry leaves toward the top will absorb the moisture from the upper part of the stalks. When sufficiently dry, put it under cover or stack it like oats or wheat.

Persons on small farms, who raise only small quantities of Indian corn, and therefore have but little stock fodder from their corn-fields, will find that a few acres of corn sown broadcast will supply them with an ample amount of long food. Here in the west, where so much corn is raised to be converted into hogs, horses, mules, and cattle, the supply of winter fodder from the corn-fields is generally sufficient. But to the north and east, where less corn is raised, and the winters are longer and colder, there is no crop, I believe, which will supply the necessities of horses and cattle better, or with less labor. I have therefore given you my testimony in its favor; and as I am anxious that the farmers to the east, and especially in Virginia, should try it, should you publish this in your excellent paper, please to send the No. which may contain it to Mr. Botts, editor of the Southern Planter, with my request to urge it upon the farmers in that state to give it a fair trial.

I venture to predict that as an auxiliary to the small farmers on impoverished lands, it will in many instances prevent the necessity of emigrating from their much-loved native land—a matter of so much pain always, and not unfrequently of sore disappointment. Our crops of oats, corn, and hemp, in Kentucky, are good generally, fully reaching an average. The wheat very indifferent, I should think not more than half a crop of light grain. The *rust* is the wheat destroyer of this country. How are we to avoid it? He who shall teach us will be our great benefactor, and entitled to our warmest gratitude.(*b*) If we could get some variety that would ripen before the access of warm wet weather, say the last of May or first of June, perhaps we might escape the rust. Is there any such variety?(*c*) JOHN LEWIS.

Llangollen, Ky., Sept. 4, 1844.

(*a*) We think this a low estimate, and that from 7 to 10 tons per acre, on rich and highly manured land, would be nearer the mark. Some assert that they have grown 15 tons of dried fodder or more per acre.

(*b*) We stated in our September No., page 260, that to sow wheat in drills 6 inches apart or so, had lessened its liability to rust. A top dressing of pulverized charcoal, leached or unleached ashes, or lime, is an excellent preventive. Paring and burning the soil is also highly recommended, but this is too expensive a process at present for the American farmer. When we were at the west, we found that many of the farmers erred in not sowing their wheat sufficiently early; hence its late ripening and greater liability to rust—hot, wet weather almost invariably producing it.

(*c*) An early and hardy variety of wheat is unquestionably necessary for the warm rich soils of the southwest; it ought also to have rather a *small stalk*, with as *small a leaf* as possible, so as not to retain the moisture in excess. Has our correspondent ever tried the Virginia May wheat, the Mediterranean, and other early hardy varieties? We have requested Genl. Harmon of this state, to forward him some of the Improved White Flint

for experiment. We hope he will try it in various situations, and with various modes of culture; subsoiling, plowing in, harrowing, &c., &c., a separate square rod each, and give us the result. Being quite a botanist, Mr. Lewis' remarks on the vegetation (leaves, stalks, &c.) of different varieties of wheat would be eminently worthy of record. We are persuaded that wheat can be successfully cultivated in Kentucky, if proper attention be paid to it; and for an excellent article on this subject, we would refer our readers to the Essays of Judge Beatty, recently published, and noticed page 317 of this paper.

NORTHERN CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER.

October is an important month for the farmer. In this, he has to collect his roots, apples, corn, and store them up for safe keeping through the winter. Secure sugar beet and mangol-wurzel before heavy frosts occur. Very light frosts do not injure them while in the ground. They should be perfectly matured, or they otherwise will afford less nutrition. This may be known by some of their leaves turning yellow. If allowed to remain beyond this time, there is a new elaboration of their juices, and much of the saccharine principle, which is the fattening one, is destroyed. Turneps and parsneps may be left till in danger of freezing in the ground, and the latter, if not wanted for winter use, are better for remaining till spring. In this case, all the water must be carefully led away from the beds, or they will rot. Potatoes are ripe when the vines are decayed, and they should never be dug before. All roots ought to be protected from the sun after digging, by throwing over them some of the leaves or straw, and as soon as the dirt attached to them is dried, carry them at once to the cellar or pit. Too little care is used in storing roots. The air ought to be carefully kept from them, by putting them in barrels loosely covered, or in bins well guarded by straw or turf, and they are still better for having light mould or sand sifted into the interstices. Such as are stored in the fields, may be placed in pits, where the ground is dry and sandy, somewhat excavated below the surface, and piled above it to the height required. A coating of straw must first be laid over them, carefully thatched over the heap like shingles, to carry off any water that may leak through the exterior covering of earth, which may be added to the depth of a few inches, just sufficient to prevent injury from early frosts. The covering for winter need not be completed till later, as by leaving the earth loose, the escape of moisture from the roots is facilitated, as well as the gases, which are generated by the partial heating and curing of the roots, which takes place when they are thrown into heaps soon after they have been dug. When finally covered over for the winter, a hole on the top should be left, or several, if the pit be a long one, in which a wisp of straw must be placed, which will allow the escape of all moisture and gas. If the ground is a stiff clay, the roots must be placed on the surface of the ground, and a ditch dug on every side, one foot below them, so as to carry off all the water; otherwise, the lower strata will be spoiled by the water retained on the surface.

Winter apples ought to be carefully picked by hand, and placed in bins or barrels, and entirely excluded from the air. They should occupy a dry cool cellar, or upper room, in which the temperature is not below the freezing point. If they should become frozen, they must be kept covered and allow the frost to escape gradually, when the effect will be scarcely perceptible; yet when this occurs, they do not keep as long in good flavor as if untouched by frost. If you have clay land, much of the plowing for the following spring may be done in this month, throwing it into high furrows as much as possible. If there be no demand for your fall apples, they are worth much more to feed to stock, swine and cattle, than for cider; dispose of all in this way but such as are wanted for the winter use.

Secure your winter squashes and pumpkins, by placing them in a dry cool place, and you may have the luxury of good vegetable and pumpkin pies during the winter. All the garden seeds should be carefully selected and placed beyond the reach of decay and vermin. Prepare all your supernumerary stock for market; cull out your choicest animals for breed and use, and sell and fat the remainder. Be careful to avoid an overstock for winter. One half the animals well kept will yield more profit than the whole half kept. Set out trees for the eusuing spring. They may be transplanted any time after the sap has ceased to flow, which occurs when the buds are fully developed. This is the proper time to cut wood for the year. Fuel cut from July till November is more valuable than if prepared at any other season. If not convenient to draw it, let it remain on the ground till sleighing.

If hemp is wanted for early breaking, spread it out this month for dew-rotting. The lint, however, is whiter and better to defer it till December for latitudes below 40°; a higher latitude, November is the best month.

Timber cut during these months is also much more durable, notwithstanding the popular opinion to the contrary.

Kitchen Garden.—Keep the crops of spinach entirely clean; they can now be thinned out, leaving the plants four or five inches apart. Lettuces for early spring use should be treated in the same way. Those for late fall use should be transferred to frames, and protected from frost during the night. The same mode can be adopted with cabbage plants for fall and winter use. During the latter part of the month cut down the asparagus tops, and give the bed a coat of well-rotted stable manure to the depth of two or three inches. This can be done, however, as well next month.

Fruit Garden and Orchard.—Continue propagating by layers and cuttings; plant beds of strawberries that may have been omitted last month. They will be less likely to suffer from the heat of the ensuing summer, than if planted in the spring. Gather all the apples and pears which still remain upon the trees before the frost injures them. Most kinds of hardy fruit and forest trees may now be trimmed and cleared of lateral shoots and suckers. All kinds of hardy deciduous trees and shrubs can be transplanted this month as soon as they have shed their leaves. Fall planting is preferable for good-sized trees, as during the winter they can firmly establish themselves, and be ready to throw out sufficient roots in the spring to withstand the heats of summer. Small seedlings had better be left till spring, as they are liable to be thrown out of the ground by the frost in the winter.

Flower Garden and Pleasure Grounds.—About the middle or latter end of the month plant tulips, hyacinths, &c. Select a warm mellow soil and let it be highly manured with well rotted compost.

The ranunculus and anemone can now be planted, and all other varieties of bulbous and tuberous rooted flowers. Continue to transplant perennial and biennial flower roots. Plant some bulbous roots in flower pots for winter blooming. The latter part of the month,

pot your tender roses and everything else that requires protection in the winter, and have them ready to move in on the sudden approach of any cold weather. Flowering and ornamental shrubs can now be found and also propagated by layers, cuttings, and suckers. The latter part of this month new pleasure grounds may be formed, and all hardy deciduous trees may be transplanted, as soon as they have shed their leaves. Live hedges can now be planted. Continue to mow your lawns, clean the gravel walks, cut and carry away all weeds, decayed flower stems, fallen leaves, &c., and prepare ground for spring planting.

SOUTHERN CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER.

To the sugar planter, as well as the cotton grower, October and November are the most important months in the year. To the cotton grower, the work of these months will be nearly the same as that of September; as to the sugar planter, it will claim his special attention. In the early part of October, let him commence and get everything in readiness for cutting and grinding his cane. Repair the roads leading from the cane fields to the mill, if necessary; put your carts and yokes in order; procure and sharpen the knives or hooks for cutting the cane; see that the mill or rollers are properly geared, well oiled, and are clean. If your business will warrant it, procure by all means a steam engine, rather than use horses or mules in grinding. See that the kettles are well set, and that the flues are strong and cleared of filth. Put in order the coolers, and all minor implements used in the operations. Also prepare barrels or hogsheads for filtering; and look to the gutters or conductors for conveying the juices or syrups, and see that they are tight, and properly fitted to your work. Draw and split fuel for boiling if it has not been done before.

By the last of October, in ordinary seasons, more or less of the cane attains its usual maturity in Florida and Louisiana. When this period arrives, the first thing to be done is to provide for future crops. Give early attention to the saving of seed, on account of the injury which seed-cane receives by frost, and which is liable to occur before the middle of November. The general rule observed in saving cane for planting, is to reserve such a portion of the crop as is the least valuable for grinding. Hence, those fields which have produced cane from the same stubble for two, three, or four years, and which now require, from the stinted growth they produce, to be replanted with cane or some other crop, are selected to furnish seed-canes. The canes from such fields are small and short, having the joints nearer together, each of which sends up shoots called rattoons. One acre of such rattoons is sufficient, in ordinary cases, for the planting of three acres of land. They are cut near the ground, and carted to the vicinity of the fields where they are to be planted out, and then formed, when not planted as soon as cut, into long beds, about fifteen feet wide, which are called *mattresses*. These are made by commencing at one end of the bed, and placing a row of canes, with their tops on, across it—the tops directed outward. Upon this a second row is laid, so that the buts are placed about eight inches or a foot in advance of those of the first row. Upon the second row a third is placed in like manner, and so on. By this arrangement the lower part of the stalk is preserved from the cold, by the tops; except in two or three layers across that portion of the mattress last formed, where the protection is afforded by four or five inches of earth.

A great part of the planting may be done with about three feet of the rejected cane tops, to which a greater portion of the green leaves are attached at the time of gathering the crop. These, when not reserved for planting, should be left on the field for the protection of the stubbles; but when cut for planting, it is better to cut them one or two joints longer than usual, and to form them into windrows across the field. In this case, from two to four rows should be thrown into one, and arranged as respects the over-lapping, like the mattresses above described. The fields from which these tops are obtained, are often those that were planted the previous year, and in which the cane is high, and somewhat prostrated at the beginning of the grinding season. Hence it is necessary to cut this earlier to prevent it from rooting at the lower joints. When the force of the plantation will permit, the land should be planted as fast as the seed-cane is cut. Canes planted at this season should be in the driest fields, and covered to the depth of three or four inches, in order that they may take an earlier start next spring than if they remained in the mattresses during the winter. The remainder, and by far the greatest part of the planting, may be deferred until the grinding season is over, which varies from the 20th of December to the middle of January; and often it is not completed before the first of March. The covering given to the canes is more and more shallow as the season advances, until the close of February, when it rarely exceeds two inches.

In preparing the ground for planting cane, it should be first thoroughly ditched or drained, and then plowed and harrowed; after which it should be drilled, at distances varying from thirty-three inches to six feet apart, according to the newness and strength of the soil. Into these drills or furrows there should be laid, three or four inches apart, two parallel rows of cane-tops, from two and a half to four feet in length, and covered with earth at a depth corresponding to the season of the year in which the planting is done.

In the latter part of October, or early part of November, prepare for preserving sweet potatoes for the winter. Select a dry place, level the earth, and lay a bed of dry straw so as to form a circle of about six feet in diameter. On this straw pile up the potatoes until they form a cone four of five feet high, over which spread a little dry grass. Then cover the entire cone with corn-stalks set up endwise with the buts resting on the ground and the tops reaching over the apex, of a sufficient thickness to conceal all of the potatoes. Then cover the whole pile with earth at a depth of at least a foot, without leaving any air-hole at the top, as is frequently done. A small shelter should then be made so as to prevent the rains from washing off the earth. This may be done by inserting in the ground about the pile four forked stakes, on which rails may be placed to support the covering, which may consist of boards, bark, thatch, or other substances. Potatoes can be preserved in this manner until June, nearly as fresh as when first put up.

In these months dress burr artichokes, taking away all their suckers, except three to each stock, open their roots, lay about them new earth and manure, and plant out suckers for another crop. Trim and dress asparagus beds by cutting down the stocks and burning them over the beds. Then dig between the shoots, level the beds, and cover them three fingers deep with fresh earth and manure, mixed. Continue to plant celery, set it in gutters, as it grows, and hill up; sow spinach, lettuce and radish seeds, and plant out evergreens—they will do now perhaps better than in April. Plant vines or beans, and early peas.

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL NEWS.

By the steam-ship Britannia, we are favored with our European journals to the 4th of September.

MARKETS.—*Ashes* remained without change—the transactions fair. *Cotton* had fallen from $\frac{1}{8}$d. to $\frac{1}{4}$d. on upland, and $\frac{1}{2}$d. on Sea Island—sales heavy and languid. Stock on hand at Liverpool on the 1st of August, 936,000 bales. *Flour and Grain* extremely dull and declining in price—the importers will be heavy losers. *Provisions.* Beef, Pork, and Lard, had improved, and were brisk of sale—but a small quantity of either of these articles on hand, and a steady market for them was anticipated. *Naval Stores* without change. *Rice* the same. *Tobacco* languid when the packet left, though the transactions through August had been unusually large.

Money more in demand, and first class bills quoted from 2 to 2½ per cent.

American Stocks without change, and transactions unimportant.

Trade continued steady, and all branches of manufactures were in full employment.

The Weather was highly favorable for the harvest, which was going on briskly throughout the country.

Tobacco Trade.—An alteration in the excise of this article is anticipated.

Prolific Cow.—Mr. George Nicholls, of Thornton, near Pocklington, has now in his possession a cow that has produced twins three times. One of the offspring of this animal has also had twins once. Out of the eight calves six of them are heifers, and they are all exceedingly promising.

Hiveless Bees.—We find the following curious observations on hiveless bees in Capt. Widrington's Spain and the Spaniards in 1843: "Bees abound in this district, and increase to such an extent that they return an enormous profit to those who take the trouble of looking after them. The common hive is the hollow stem of the cork-tree, which is cut in lengths and is perhaps the best material in the world for the purpose; next to it is the common straw one used in England; both these substances have the same valuable quality of being non-conductors of heat and cold. They had never heard of such a thing, much less practised it, as killing bees, and were surprised when I mentioned such a custom. I ascertained a very curious fact in their economy that is well worth attending to. The Canon Cepero, so well known in the first Cortes, being shut up in the convent of the Cartuxa at Seville by order of King Fedinand, by way of passing the time, applied himself to study the economy of bees, which he had followed up at Cazalla, and was so successful in his management that in a very short time he had a thousand hives! When the civil war commenced, circumstances caused their being neglected and dispersed, and some swarms, finding no holes or cavities to suit them, attached themselves to a beam in an out-house, where they made their combs in a similar manner to that by which the tree wasps suspend their curious fabric from the branches. They were so well satisfied with this novel situation that they never left it nor swarmed, but kept adding successive combs, until they nearly reached the ground, and hung from the point of suspension like a huge living and waxen stalactite. The owner never disturbed them, but had the lower combs cut off as they were wanted, and the colony had now remained for a considerable period, without their showing the least disposition to change it. This is certainly rather important information for the managers of apiaries, and may serve to confirm the statements lately published on the practicability of inducing the insect to work downward."

Saving Flower Seed.—Instead of saving seed from any blooms that may chance to remain on, it should be saved from the best well formed early flowers. The proper way is to mark good flowers as soon as they can be found, and let their seeds ripen well before they are gathered. Let them be from good double flowers. When the seed is rubbed out, only the few outside rows of seed should be used; those which come from the centre or disk, will almost always come high. There are no means so effectual as making the best early blooms of the best varieties, and relying on those pods of seed only.—*Gardener and Practical Florist.*

Strawberry.—A very fine strawberry, measuring eight inches and three quarters in circumference, was plucked from the garden of Mr. John Saxelby, of Castle Donington, during the past week.

Benefit of Soot and Saw Dust.—About a month since three chimney sweeps sold sixty bushels of soot to a neighboring farmer for 25s., each party being very well satisfied with the bargain. Some days after, it was discovered that the gentlemen of the black robe had adulterated the soot with three sacks of very dry saw dust. The farmer, however, is convinced that his crop of turneps is greatly improved by the saw dust, as it materially contributed to the passing the manure through the drill; and the vegetation of the seed looks most propitious, and promises to prove, with bone dust, guano, gypsum, and other experiments, a valuable trial of the virtues of the chimney and saw pit.—*New Farmers' Journal.*

Peruvian Sheep.—The captain of the Leo, at present discharging a cargo of guano at the Quay, brought over with him a very fine specimen of Peruvian sheep. It is a remarkably active looking animal, and bore the rigors of the eight months' voyage with amazing hardihood, its food being chiefly bread and peas. It has four large circular horns, two projecting from the forehead and two toward the shoulders, and its feet resemble those of a goat more than our native sheep. It is a two-shear tup, with wool of a rich silky fibre, and much like what is used in the fabrication of the finer shawls. It was purchased by Mr. Shanks, butcher, Berwick, who purposes crossing him with sheep of different kinds, viz: black-faced horned, Cheviot, and Leicester sheep.—*Berwick Warder.*

Transmutation of Grain.—It is well known that we are an unbeliever in the transmutation of grain; but for the benefit of those who do not agree with us in opinion, we give the following extracts on this subject from a late London Gardener's Chronicle. We shall be pleased to record all such as have a tendency to elucidate *principles*, whatever result they may lead to, and however they may conflict with established notions. While on this subject we may be allowed to state, that we have recently been shown a stool of wheat and chess, as nearly as we can judge, originating from *one seed*, in which 5 or 6 stalks of chess were indiscriminately mixed with 25 or 30 of wheat. The account of its origin by its intelligent owner was this: Last spring he discovered in his wheat field a number of wheat plants, thrown out by the frost of an open winter, and being desirous of testing the principle of transmutation, he transplanted several of them carefully to a rich bed in the garden. Many plants produced all wheat, but some produced wheat and chess from the same plant—at least this was the honest conclusion he arrived at from the observations he made in the transplanting and subsequent growth. He thinks he can not be mistaken, as he aimed to take and thinks he did take up every plant singly which gave the double prod-

uct. There is, however, the possibility of mistake in the matter, and we suspend our judgment till further light is received on this interesting subject.

"'I think it a very fit thing,' says worthy Master Gerarde, 'to adde in this place a rare observation of the TRANSMUTATION of one species into another in plants; which, though it have beene observed in ancient times, as by Theophrastus, 'De Caus. Plant.,' lib. 3, c. 16, whereas among others hee mentioned the change of Spelt into Oates, and by Virgil in these wordes—

'Grandia sæpe quibus mandavimus Hordea sulcis,
Infelix Lolium, et steriles dominantur Avenæ;'

"'That is—

'In furrows where good Barley we did sowe
Nothing but Darnell and poor Oates do growe;'

"'Yet none that I have read have observed that two severall graines, perfect in each respect, did grow at any time in one eare; the which I saw this yeare (1632) in an eare of White Wheat, which was found by my very good friend Mr. John Goodyer, a man second to none in his industrie and searching of plants, nor in his judgement or knowledge of them. This eare of Wheat was as large and faire as most are, and about the middle thereof grew three or four perfect Oates in all respects; which being hard to be found, I hold very worthy of setting downe, for some reasons not to be insisted on in this place.'

"What the good Gerarde's 'reasons not to be insisted on' may have been, we are unable to discover. Perhaps he was afraid of being laughed at as a dreamer; or may be, he dreaded an indictment for heresy. Then, it is to be imagined, as now, the doctrine of the transmutation of grain was laughed to scorn; and we have numbered ourselves among the scorners.

"But are the scorners right? Are we so *very* sure that one kind of grain has not been formed accidentally from another—that no room is left for argument or evidence? Some years ago we should have said yes; we now say no. We now say that we are not so *very* sure about the matter, although we do still hold hard to the orthodox faith in the matter of species. What has unsettled our belief, and changed us from skeptics into doubters, is the extraordinary but certain fact, that in orchidaceous plants forms just as different as wheat, barley, rye, and oats, have been proved, by the most rigorous evidence, to be accidental variations of one common form, brought about no one knows how, but before our eyes, and rendered permanent by equally mysterious agency. Then, says Reason, if these inconceivable changes have been proved to occur among orchidaceous plants, why should they not also occur among grain plants; for it is not likely that such vagaries will be confined to one little group in the vegetable kingdom; it is far more rational to believe them to be a part of the general system of the creation.

"And then arises the puzzling question of—Where do the grain plants come from—what country gave them birth—where are they still to be met with in their savage haunts? History says nowhere. The origin of wheat is wholly unknown; so is that of oats. Rye is said to occur wild in some of the Caucasian provinces, but that is doubtful; and the barley which was found by Col. Chesney in Mesopotamia may have been the remains of cultivation. How then can we be *sure* that wheat, rye, oats, and barley, are not all accidental offsets from some unsuspected species?

"A gentleman who lately travelled in Germany was assured, that if oats are sown early, not allowed to produce ears for the first year, but compelled by artificial means to defer their earing till the second, they will change to other sorts of grain. A seemingly more monstrous proposition never emanated from the father of paradox. Nevertheless, there could be no harm in putting the statement to the proof. The Marquess of Bristol has done so. At his lordship's request, the Rev. Lord Arthur Hervey, in the year 1843, sowed a handful of oats, treated them in the manner recommended, by continually stopping the flowering stems, and the produce in 1844 has been for the most part ears of a very slender barley, having much the appearance of rye, with a little wheat, and some oats; samples of which are, by favor of Lord Bristol, now before us. What is to be inferred from this?

"But, it will be said, has the question been fairly tried? The mode was this:—A handful of oats was taken out of a manger, sown in a garden, diligently cared for, and finally reaped. As oats do not usually consist of a mixture of barley, wheat, and oats, it could not be suspected that any error would so arise, more especially since the barley that has been raised is not exactly barley, for it is longer and thinner—nor rye, for it wants the structure of that sort of grain. Nevertheless, there is the possibility of error; and therefore the experiment will be repeated with every precaution, and we hope to be allowed to report the result.

"In the meanwhile it would be as well if a good many persons would try the experiment in different parts of the country. The question is, whether by any means wheat, oats, barley, and rye, can be made to change into each other? The Germans say that it will happen if oats are sown early, and prevented flowering till the second year. Gerarde says that he saw it happen to some extent, though he did not know how. Is this true or not?"

Disease in Potatoes.—This disease seems to be as destructive in Great Britain, Ireland, France, Germany, Holland, and Russia, as in our own country, and is attributed to many causes. The remedies suggested are—to keep such as are intended for seed deep buried in the ground all winter; thoroughly draining and subsoiling the land where planted; to pit them in small quantities; to select seed for planting not quite ripe, and such as have not the slightest appearance of being watery; liming the land; obtaining new seed, either from planting potato balls, or from some distant country where they grow in a healthy state; after digging, spread the potatoes in the sun till they become dry and unfit for food, then stow them away till required for planting; top dressing the plant with nitrate of soda, and sulphate of soda and magnesia; selecting such tubers for seed as grow near the top of the ground and are quite green; to plant the seed whole.

Show of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society.—This took place at Richmond on the 7th of August. The exhibition of stock at this large and influential Society is usually superior to that of the Royal Agricultural Society shows, unless held near Yorkshire. We perceive that Mr. Bates of Kirkleavington took the first prize of £25 ($125) for the best bull of any age with his Cleveland Lad 2d, calved March, 1838—sire Short-Tail, dam by Matchem. The prize for the best cow of any age, £20, was awarded to Mr. Crofton of Holywell, Durham,—Rosey, bred by John Colling—calved May, 1839, sire Borderer, dam by Gainford.

Show of the Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland.—This was held at Glasgow, August 14th. The exhibition was as usual numerously attended, and a greatly increased number of animals on the ground. Among other things not common at such places, we notice Alpacas, a fine display of Poultry, Butter, Cheese, and an Arab stallion of high cast.

Editor's Table.

COLMAN'S AGRICULTURAL TOUR.—We are informed that the publisher, Mr. Phelps of Boston, has been in the receipt of the manuscript for the second number of this long and eagerly expected work, and that it will be issued from the press in a few days.

SIMMOND'S COLONIAL MAGAZINE.—We are just in receipt of a few numbers of this highly valuable work, recently sent us from England by its obliging editor, and have looked over its pages with absorbing interest. It is devoted to the agriculture, manufactures, commerce, and policy of the vast colonial possessions of Great Britain, and treats its subjects with fearlessness, candor, and ability. In the Colonial Magazine we find several articles on the agriculture of the East and West Indies, Africa, and the Pacific Islands. These would be especially interesting to our sourthern planters, and we earnestly call their attention to the work. It is published in octavo form, 128 pages monthly, price 2s. 6d.—would probably cost $8 to $9 in this city.

JOURNAL OF THE AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA—for the year 1842. We have also received from Mr. Simmonds the above excellent Journal, for which he has our thanks. We have not yet found time to peruse it, but propose doing so shortly; for in running our eye down its contents, we notice the heads of several articles on subjects of which we have long desired to inform ourselves.

THE AMERICAN QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE AND SCIENCE.—Under this title, Dr. E. Emmons and Dr. Prime, propose issuing at Albany, on the 1st of January next, if sufficient encouragement be given to the enterprise, a quarterly periodical of 150 pages—price $3 a year, payable after the issue of the first number. They say that while the aim of their journal "will be to become the advocate and ally of American agriculture, it will at the same time embrace all foreign matters which may be interesting to [illegible] and scientific men. It will contain original Essays, both scientific and practical, on the various branches of husbandry—Animal and Vegetable Physiology—Chemistry—Botany—Geology—and all the branches of science connected with farming,—Notices and Reviews of Agricultural and Scientific works—Agricultural News, both foreign and domestic—details of accurately conducted Experiments and their results—and all discoveries in Science or Art which offer advantage to the farmer. The aid of some of the ablest men in this country has been secured, who will furnish its pages with valuable matter. But while it is intended to give this Journal a high character for science, it will be our steady aim to make it also highly practical and useful in the every-day business of the farmer."

Subscribers are requested to forward their names through the Postmaster of the place, to J. A. Prime, Newburg, Orange Co., N. Y., to whom all communications in relation to the subject may be addressed, postpaid, until farther notice.

We shall be pleased to take subscribers' names for the above, and give any assistance in our power to the establishment of a work of its proposed high character; for we think it much needed now in the United States—that it would be conducive of great good, and tend to the advancement of agricultural knowledge, and the interests of the country.

LECTURES ON THE APPLICATION OF CHEMISTRY AND GEOLOGY TO AGRICULTURE, by Jas. F. W. Johnstone: Part IV. Wiley & Putnam, 161 Broadway, New York—price 31¼ cents. Here we have the concluding lectures of Professor Johnstone, which are superior to anything we have yet met, for condensation of matter; felicity of illustration; simple, copious language; cautious array of facts, instead of uncertain theory and induction; and the latest and most reliable knowledge on the highly important subjects of chemistry and geology, as applied to agriculture. They have been published by Messrs. Wiley & Putnam, at a very cheap rate, in clear type, on good paper, and are stiched or bound in handsome style. No farmer now, and none who have a taste for the science of agriculture, should be without these highly instructive and entertaining volumes.

THE KITCHEN AND FRUIT GARDENER.—A select manual of kitchen gardening and culture of fruits, containing familiar directions for the most approved practice in each department; descriptions of many valuable fruits, and a calendar of work to be performed each month in the year. Lea & Blanchard, Philadelphia, 118 pages octavo—price 25 cents. This is an excellent little work, containing a great deal of instruction in a small compass, and is highly worthy the attention of the public.

ESSAYS ON PRACTICAL AGRICULTURE, including his Prize Essays carefully revised; by Adam Beatty, Vice President of the Kentucky Agricultural Society. Published by Collins & Brown, Maysville, Ky. We have here a goodly volume octavo of 293 pages by one of the best practical farmers and most gifted agricultural writers of the west. Among the subjects discussed in it are the general agriculture of Kentucky and the best system to be adopted; cultivation of corn, hemp, tobacco, &c.; rotation of crops; breeding and grazing horses, cattle, and sheep; soils and their treatment, and the food of plants; setting woodlands in grass and making and preserving timothy meadows; cultivation of wheat in rich vegetable soils; advantages of manufactures to agriculture; the cultivation of the locust, being his article published in Volume I. of the American Agriculturist entirely rewritten; and many other subjects of great interest and importance, not only to the western, but also to the eastern farmer. We have read Judge Beatty's work with a high degree of satisfaction. Every sentence shows the judicious practical man, and a safe guide in the theory and art of agriculture. The essays are written in a clear, easy style, terse, yet such as the plainest man may readily comprehend. We earnestly recommend this book to general perusal.

Canary Seed.—The Boston Cultivator says that a superior crop of canary seed may be raised by sowing it in the fall at the same time we do rye. It produces largely and brings a high price in market.

Silk in France.—The silk culture in this country is increasing with great success, and the present crop is estimated to be worth 160,000,000 of francs.—*National Intelligencer.*

Mr. Hovey in Europe.—We noticed that C. M. Hovey, Esq., editor of the Magazine of Horticulture, in Boston, sailed for Europe in the steam-packet of the 1st of August last. We wish him a pleasant trip abroad, and have no doubt that he will obtain such information while absent, as will be of essential service to him in his business and the future conduct of his excellent journal.

Poison in Rhubarb Leaves.—A family in Bedford, Ct., were lately poisoned by eating rhubarb leaves as greens. The stalk of this plant is used for tarts and sauce without danger, but the leaves contain oxalic acid.—*Boston Cultivator.*

Maple Sugar.—The New York Sun states that 10,000 hogsheads of maple sugar are sold annually in this city.

Swan for Sale.—Who has any, and what is the price?

Lard Oil.—The firm of R. W. Lee & Co., manufactures eighty kegs of lard oil every twenty-four hours. The product in winter is one third elaine and two thirds stearine; in summer the proportion is exactly the reverse. The oil thus manufactured is equal to two hundred gallons per day. The value of the oil and stearine shipped from this single establishment during the last sixteen months, is over $100,000.

In the pork season the oil is made directly from the hog, the whole of which is used for the purpose, except the hams and shoulders.

Sperm oil, prior to the manufacture of lard oil, was sold at from $1,25 to $1,50, according to quality. The corresponding qualities of lard oil are now 50 to 62½ cents. But this comparison does not fully exhibit the difference in saving to the community; for it is a demonstrable fact, that lard oil goes farther as a means of light, and the difference must be great in other uses.

There is the same difference, and from the same cause, between summer and winter *lard* oils as in summer and winter *sperm* oils. The article made in summer holds more or less stearine in solution, which the access of cold weather readily detects, and renders necessary that the winter supply should be made as that season approaches.

Messrs Lee & Co. forward the article to every section of our country, and even beyond the Atlantic. In New York and still farther east, it sells side by side with its great rival, sperm, and is steadily winning its way into public favor. As to the western market, it is rapidly driving out of use all other oils, either for light or machinery.

Lard oil is made in Cincinnati in twenty-two establishments, which manufacture an aggregate of 600,000 gallons per annum, value at 50 cts., nearly one third of a million of dollars. The value of the stearine and other residuum, must be at least as much more, these articles having steadily advanced in price since the introduction of the lard oil manufacture.

We copy the above from the Cincinnati Advertiser, which cautions the public upon the matter of *all sorts of grease* sold as lard oil, greatly to the prejudice of the pure, well-manufactured article. We hope that people here will also take heed to the caution; for nothing is more common, even in this market, than *vile grease* hawked about as "pure, genuine, unadulterated lard oil of the first quality."

Potato Rot.—In the Utica Daily Gazette, Geo. R. Perkins, Esq., makes the following valuable observations on this alarming disease: "For several days past I have been making a few observations, in order, if possible, to determine the cause of this disease. I find the vines of those potatoes which are rotten, to be hollow for four or five inches above the surface of the ground; they bear the appearance of having been eaten out by an insect, and in many cases I discovered a small green colored maggot in the cavity. On scraping off the outer bark from the vine I discovered that the leaflet buds had the appearance of having been eaten out, leaving holes through which I conjectured the insect had passed. Those vines attached to a sound and ripe potato were solid and partially green. Is it not possible, and highly probable, that all this evil may thus be caused by an insect?

Farm Architecture.—We shall be obliged to our jocose cotemporary of the Maine Farmer, if he will send us the "jack-knife" cut of his *Quoddy wigwam*, and he may be assured that we shall reciprocate the favor in an *Omahaw lodge*, "corn-stalks and all," the moment we obtain possession thereof. If he can add a charming aboriginal to adorn the wigwam, and to cook the Quoddy blue potatoes which we have continued to raise in large quantities from the seed he sent us some years ago, we shall esteem his gift then as beyond price. Let the said person be as light complexioned and rosy as convenient, with as many good points, moral, intellectual, and physical, as can be found.

Green Corn Pudding.—The Louisville Journal says that the following recipe will produce one of the rarest delicacies ever brought to the table: Take of green corn twelve ears, and grate it. To this add a quart of sweet milk, a quarter of a pound of fresh butter, four eggs, well beaten, pepper and salt, as much as sufficient; stir all well together, and bake four hours in a buttered dish. Some add to the other ingredients a quarter of a pound of sugar, and eat the pudding with sauce. It is good cold or warm, with meat or sauce; but epicures of the most exquisite taste declare for it, we believe, hot, and with the first service.

CheapManure.—By mixing at the rate of one cask of unslaked lime to a cart load of straw, potato tops, and corn stalks, and heaping them all together, Mr. Barton converted the above materials into good manure in 14 days.—*Maine Farmer.*

The Cockle Burr Poisonous to Hogs.—The South-western Farmer says that whenever hogs are turned into a pasture where cockle burr grows, they invariably die.

Twenty-seven Crops of Rye in Succession.—We find in the Boston Cultivator, that Mr. Mark Cooper, near the village of Enterprise, Lancaster co., Pa., had a very fine crop of rye the past season, being the twenty-seventh in succession on the same field, and what is most extraordinary, the land has not received a spadeful of manure for 27 years. We are confident it must have had something else then, to give food for the rye. There are instances where lands have grown a continuation of grain crops without apparent diminution, for years; but these were the rich bottom lands of rivers or lakes, where food had been accumulating for the crops for centuries, and could not consequently be soon exhausted.

The Prune.—This tropical fruit has been successfully cultivated in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.—*South. Cult.*

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY SHOWS FOR OCTOBER.—

Cayuga county,	at	Auburn,	October	9 and	10
Tompkins	"	Ithica,	"	4,	5
Green	"	Cairo,	"	16,	17
Lewis	"	W. Martinsburg,		12,	13
Otsego	"	Cooperstown,		2,	3
Madison	"	Cazenovia,	"	1,	2
Wayne	"	Lyons,	"	2,	3
Cortland	"	Homer,	"	2,	3
Chemung	"	Havana,	"	2,	3
Orange	"	Goshen,	"	23,	—
Montgomery	"	Fonda,	"	11,	12
Monroe	"	Rochester,	"	8,	9
Wayne	"	Lyons,	"	28,	—
Niagara	"	Lockport,	"	9,	10
Pennsylv. State Show		Philadelphia,	"	16,	17
Mass'etts	"	Worcester,	"	9,	10
"	Hampden,	Springfield,	"	16,	17

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—H. T. of Ohio, with a package, is received. The contents will appear from month to month, and all inquiries answered in due time. The suggestions will be carried out in our next volume. The plans of farm buildings by L. F. A. are in the hands of the engraver, and will appear in the January No. for 1845, if not previously. We are promised the prize ones for our two next. With so many things as are continually charged upon our memory, we had entirely forgotten the latter. We are in receipt of several other communications which we have not room to notice.

REVIEW OF THE MARKET.

PRICES CURRENT IN NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 23, 1844.

ASHES, Pots,	per 100 lbs.	$4 18	to	$4 25
Pearls,	do.	4 44	"	4 50
BACON SIDES, Smoked,	per lb.	3½	"	4½
In pickle	do.	3	"	4
BALE ROPE	do.	6	"	9
BARK, Quercitron	per ton	24 00	"	25 00
BARLEY	per bush.	56	"	57
BEANS, White	do.	1 25	"	1 75
BEEF, Mess	per bbl.	5 00	"	7 00
Prime	do.	3 00	"	5 00
Smoked	per lb.	5	"	7
Rounds, in pickle	do.	3	"	5
BEESWAX, Am. Yellow	do.	28	"	31
BOLT ROPE	do.	12	"	13
BRISTLES, American	do.	25	"	65
BUTTER, Table	do.	15	"	18
Shipping	do.	8	"	12
CANDLES, Mould, Tallow	do.	9	"	12
Sperm	do.	28	"	38
Stearic	do.	20	"	25
CHEESE	do.	3	"	7
CIDER BRANDY, Eastern	per gal.	35	"	40
Western	do.	30	"	35
CLOVER SEED	per lb.	7	"	8
COAL, Anthracite	2000 lbs.	4 75	"	5 75
Sidney and Pictou	per chal.	6 25	"	6 75
CORDAGE, American	per lb.	11	"	12
CORN, Northern	per bush.	50	"	51
Southern	do.	46	"	48
COTTON	per lb.	5	"	9½
COTTON BAGGING, Amer. hemp	per yard.	16	"	18
American Flax	do.	16	"	17
FEATHERS	per lb.	30	"	35
FLAX, American	do.	8	"	8½
FLAX SEED, rough	per 7 bush.	9 00	"	9 75
clean	do.	10 00	"	10 50
FLOUR, Northern and Western	per bbl.	4 12	"	4 50
Fancy	do.	4 75	"	5 25
Southern	per bbl.	4 12	"	4 50
Richmond City Mills	do.	5 50	"	5 75
Rye	do.	3 12	"	3 38
HAMS, Smoked	per lb.	5	"	10
Pickled	do.	4	"	7
HAY	per 100 lbs.	30	"	35
HIDES, Dry Southern	per lb.	9	"	11
HEMP, Russia, clean	per ton.	175 00	"	180 00
American, water-rotted	do.	140 00	"	180 00
do dew-rotted	do.	90 00	"	140 00
HOPS	per lb.	10	"	12
HORNS	per 100	1 25	"	5 00
LARD	per lb.	5½	"	6½
LEAD	do.	3½	"	4
Sheet and bar	do.	4	"	4½
MEAL, Corn	per bbl.	2 44	"	2 62
Corn	per hhd.	11 75	"	12 00
MOLASSES, New Orleans	per gal.	28	"	31
MUSTARD, American	per lb.	16	"	31
OATS, Northern	per bush.	29	"	31
Southern	do.	25	"	27
OIL, Linseed, American	per gal.	73	"	75
Castor	do.	80	"	85
Lard	do.	55	"	65
OIL CAKE	per 100 lbs.	1 00	"	— —
PEAS, Field.	per bush.	1 25	"	— —
PITCH	per bbl.	1 00	"	1 12
PLASTER OF PARIS	per ton.	2 25	"	2 50
Ground, in bbls. of 350 lbs	per cwt.	1 12	"	— —
PORK, Mess	per bbl.	8 25	"	10 00
Prime	do.	6 50	"	8 12
RICE	per 100 lbs.	3 12	"	3 56
ROSIN	per bbl.	58	"	75
RYE	per bush.	67	"	68
SALT	per sack	1 25	"	1 38
SHOULDERS, Smoked	per lb.	4	"	6
Pickled	do.	3	"	4
SPIRITS TURPENTINE, Southern	per gal.	35	"	38
SUGAR, New Orleans	per lb.	5	"	8
SUMAC, American	per ton	25 00	"	27 50
TALLOW	per lb.	6	"	7½
TAR	per bbl.	1 75	"	1 87
TIMOTHY SEED	per 7 bush.	11 00	"	13 00
TOBACCO	per lb.	2½	"	6½
TURPENTINE	per bbl.	2 25	"	2 75
WHEAT, Western	per bush.	88	"	92
Southern	do.	83	"	87
WHISKEY, American	per gal.	23	"	25
WOOL, Saxony	per lb.	45	"	65
Merino	do.	40	"	50
Half-blood	do.	35	"	40
Common	do.	25	"	30

New York Cattle Market—Sept. 23.

At market, 1500 Beef Cattle (300 from the south), 30 Cows and Calves, and 3500 Sheep and Lambs.

PRICES.—*Beef Cattle*—Owing to the increased supplies, are a little cheaper, and we alter our quotations to $4 *a* 4.25 for ordinary, and $4.75 *a* 5.50 for prime and extra—left over 150 head.

Cows and Calves.—All sold at $14 *a* 24.

Sheep and Lambs.—The market was cleared at $1.25 *a* 4.50 for Sheep, and 87½ *a* 2.75 for Lambs.

Hay.—A good supply at 50 *a* 62 cents per cwt. for loose by the load.

—

REMARKS.—*Ashes* are steady with an increased demand. *Cotton*, since the arrival of the Britannia, has declined ⅛ of a cent. per lb. and an ordinary business is now doing in it. Export from the United States since 1st September, 18,924 bales; same time last year, 2,888; same time year before, 5,065. *Flour* brisk and prices well sustained. *Rye Flour* is scarce. *Wheat* quite in demand and very little in market. Other kinds of grain in fair request and supply. *Hay* dull. *Hemp*, there is an increased inquiry. *Molasses* dull. *Naval Stores* plenty. *Provisions*—Pork is more sought after—Beef excessively dull—Lard brisk with an upward tendency. *Rice* flat. *Seeds* little in request. *Sugar* firmer. *Tallow*, transactions brisk. *Tobacco* the same. *Wool* has slightly fallen and not so much inquiry.

Money is from 4 to 6 per cent. according to the paper offered—the banks generally discount at 5 to 6. About $2,000,000 of specie were exported during August and September.

Stocks—Nothing particularly worthy of remark.

Business generally continues good.

The Weather was excessively hot and dry the past month up to the 24th, when a pouring rain set in, and we shall now probably have an excess of wet. Many things have suffered from the severe drought. The grass on the lighter soils has been parched up; the later varieties of corn have not filled quite as well as anticipated; and the cotton has opened too fast, and in many instances stopped growing or shed its bolls—the worm also has made some havoc, so that many a promising field of August will not yield over two thirds of a crop. The picking commenced unusually early. The sugar crop is very fine, and it is anticipated that it will turn out 40,000 hogsheads more than has ever been made in the southern States. Complaint is made of tobacco being a little short in some sections, but all agree that the quality is very superior. Everything has ripened much sooner than is common. Fruit is extremely abundant. Upon the whole, the crops are large, have been well got in, and we know of no material failure, except the rot in potatoes, which is again proving very disastrous. As yet we have not had the slightest appearance of frost.

ICHABOE GUANO.

The subscribers have received by a late arrival from Liverpool, a few hundred weight of this superior guano, pure as imported from Africa, being taken direct out of the ship Clydesdale, arrived at Liverpool docks. A writer in the London Gardener's Gazette, June 8, 1844, remarks: "The competition for this guano in the colonial market was so great, that two cargoes were sold in about twenty minutes. The desire for Ichaboe guano has arisen from the fact that all the eminent chemists who have analyzed it, found it to possess the fertilizing properties in the highest degree: and the result of its application by practical agriculturists has proved the correctness of their analysis. This island (Ichaboe) on the western coast of Africa, which three years since was unknown, is about a mile and a half in circumference, and is deeply covered with guano, the deposite of sea-birds that have for ages remained undisturbed in their possession."

Price $6 per hundred pounds, or $1 for 16 pounds, (which is sufficient for 40 gallons of water,) put up in neat boxes; also 7 lb. boxes for 50 cents. It should be applied in a liquid state, and immediately after a rain. A liberal watering with this liquid once a fortnight is sufficient for vegetables, Indian corn, potatoes and turneps, and once a week for flowers in pots, and dahlias, tuberoses, and chrysanthemums.

Also, the best of Artificial Guano, made from an exact analysis of the real, in boxes of 20 lbs., at $1 per box, or 10 lbs. for 50 cts.

3t. J. M. THORBURN & CO., 15 John st.

LINNÆAN BOTANIC GARDEN AND NURSERY—Late PRINCE'S.

FLUSHING, L. I., NEAR NEW YORK.

The new Descriptive and unrivalled Catalogue, not only of FRUIT, but also of ORNAMENTAL TREES, SHRUBS, and PLANTS, cultivated and for sale, *at reduced prices*, at this ancient and celebrated Nursery, (*the* IDENTICAL *premises known as* PRINCE'S, *and by the above title for nearly fifty years,*)

☞With directions for their Culture,

may be had *gratis* on application by mail, *post paid*, to the NEW PROPRIETORS, who will endeavor to merit the CONFIDENCE and PATRONAGE of the Public, by INTEGRITY and LIBERALITY in dealing, and MODERATION in charges.

WINTER & Co., Proprietors.

Flushing, Aug. 31, 1844.

AGRICULTURAL WORKS,

For sale by SAXTON & MILES, 205 Broadway, New York.

Clater and Youatt's Cattle Doctor, containing the causes, symptoms, and treatment of all the diseases incident to Oxen, Sheep, and Swine. Price 50 cents.

Dumas & Boussingault's Chemical and Physiological Balance of Nature. Price 50 cents.

The American Race Turf Register, Sportsman's Herald, and General Stud Book. By P. N. Edgar. Price $2.

Liebig's Agricultural and Animal Chemistry. Price 50 cts.

Liebig's Familiar Letters on Chemistry. Price 12½ cts.

Loudon's Encyclopædia of Agriculture, English. Price $10.

Loudon's Encyclopædia of Gardening. Price $10.

Bridgeman's Young Gardener's Assistant, new edition, much enlarged. Price $2.

The Farmer's Mine: being the most complete work on Manures ever published. Price 75 cts.

The Vegetable Kingdom, or Hand-Book of Plants. Price $1.

Youatt on the Horse: a new edition. Price $2.

The Complete Farmer, and Rural Economist, by Thomas G. Fessenden. Price 75 cts.

The New American Orchardist, by Wm. Kenrick. Price 87½ cts.

The Honey Bee, its Natural History, &c., with 35 engravings. Price 31 cts.

Bees, Pigeons, Rabbits, and the Canary Bird, familiarly described. Price 50 cts.

The American Poultry Book; being a practical treatise on the management of Domestic Poultry. Price 35 cts.

A Treatise on Sheep, with the best means for their general management, improvement, &c.; by A. Blacklock. Price 50 cts.

The Theory of Horticulture; or an attempt to explain the principal operations of Gardening upon physiological principles; by John Lindley. Price $1.25.

Gardening for Ladies, and Companion to the Flower Garden, by Mrs. Loudon. Price $1,50.

The Farmer's Instructor; consisting of Essays, practical directions, and hints for the management of the Farm and the Garden. By J. Buel, 2 vols. Price $1.

A Muck Manual for Farmers; by Samuel L. Dana. Price 50 cts.

Chemistry Applied to Agriculture; by M. Le Comte Chaptal. Price 50 cts.

The AmericanGardener; by William Cobbett. Price 75 cts.

A Treatise on the Vine: embracing its History, and a complete dissertation on the culture and management of Vine Yards; by Wm. R. Prince. Price $1.50

The Farmer's Encyclopædia. and Dictionary of Rural Affairs; by Cuthbert W. Johnson. Adapted to the United States by Gouverneur Emerson. Price $4.

IMPROVED WHITE FLINT WHEAT.

The subscriber has just received a lot of this very superior Seed Wheat, direct from the grower, R. Harmon, jr. Price $6 per bbl. of a little over three bushels. A. B. ALLEN,
205 Broadway.

NORMAN HORSES FOR SALE.

The undersigned having relinquished farming, offers for sale his entire stock of Norman horses, twelve in number—imported and their progeny. As he proposes to exhibit his stallion Diligence, and two of his colts, broken to harness, at the Show of the American Institute in the city of New York, on Wednesday, the 16th of October next, and offer them for sale on Friday, the 18th, he deems it unnecessary to enter into particulars, as he will be present to answer inquiries. He will merely refer to pages 172 and 193 of the Cultivator for 1842; the American Agriculturist, page 209, for 1844; the N. Y. Central Farmer for March, 1844; and the Farmer's Cabinet of Philadelphia, Vol. VI., No. 9, for information in regard to his importations of these horses, their uses, &c. The balance of the stock, consisting of 1 stallion and 2 mares imported, and 3 stud-colts and 3 mare-colts, their progeny, will be held at private sale at Moorestown, Burlington county, New Jersey, 9 miles from Philadelphia. by

It. pd EDWARD HARRIS.

AYRSHIRE CATTLE FOR SALE.

For sale an imported Ayrshire bull, 4 years old, selected by one of the most competent judges in Scotland, from one of the best herds. His superior is not in this country—price $200. Also a bull calf 17 months old, got by the above bull, and from an imported Ayrshire cow—price $100. A bull calf 2 months old, of similar character—price $50.

Apply to the editor of this paper.

IMPORTED AYRSHIRE CATTLE.

The subscriber offers for sale the imported Ayrshire *Bull and Cow* exhibited by him at the late State Show, both of which received a premium. Also, a yearling bull, and a bull calf 7 weeks old, out of the above.

Also, a very superior Durham bull calf, 6 months old.

JOEL RATHBONE.

Albany, Sept. 26, 1844. 3t

THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Published Monthly, each number containing 32 pages, royal octavo.

TERMS—One Dollar per year in advance; single numbers, Ten Cents; three copies for Two Dollars; eight copies for Five Dollars.

Each number of the Agriculturist contains but One sheet, subject to newspaper postage only, which is *one cent* in the State, or within 100 miles of its publication, and *one and a half cents*, if over 100 miles, without the State.

ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted at One Dollar, if not exceeding twelve lines, and in the same proportion, if exceeding that number.

☞ *Remit through Postmasters, as the law allows.*

GREAT SALE OF ELECTORAL SAXON SHEEP.

The undersigned will sell at vendue, the two flocks of *pure Electoral Saxon Sheep*, belonging to the estate of the late Henry D. Grove, as follows: 1st. That at Granger, Medina county, Ohio, consisting of about 400 sheep, on the 30th Sept., next, on the farm now occupied by them. 2d. The home flock, at his late residence in Hoosick, Rensselaer county, N. Y., consisting of about 350 sheep, on the 15th Oct., next. A rare opportunity is offered to those who may be anxious to improve the quality of their flocks. The following is the opinion of the distinguished manufacturer who has usually purchased Mr. Grove's wool, of the character of these flocks:—

"The purest blood in this country was introduced by the late Mr. Grove in his own flocks, the wool of which I have been familiar with since their importation in 1827. In point of fineness and admirable *felting* qualities, this wool is unsurpassed by any flock in this country, and the fleeces average about half a pound each more than any other I am acquainted with."

SAMUEL LAWRENCE.

Lowell, April 9, 1844.

The terms of the sales will be cash. Reference, Samuel Lawrence, Lowell, Mass., or the subscribers.

ELIZA W. GROVE,
W. JOSLIN,
S. A. COOK. } Administrators.

Buskirk's Bridge, N. Y., April 20, 1844.

BERKSHIRE PIGS FOR SALE.

Having made use of his present stock for several years, and wishing to take a fresh cross, the subscriber will dispose of three of his splendid Berkshire breeding sows, at the very low prices of $25 t $30 each. These animals are of good size, fine form, and descended from the best blood imported into the United States. Also, tw superb Woburns at the same price.

Berkshire and Woburn pigs, 3 months old, caged and delivered on ship-board at the city of New York, for sale at $25 per pair Address CHARLES STARR, Jr.
Mendham, Morris Co., N. J.

AGENTS FOR THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Israel E. James is our agent for the Southern and South Western States and Florida, assisted by James K. Whipple, Wm. H Weld, O. H. P. Stem, John B. Weld, B. B. Hussey, and Allen E Brooks.

CONTENTS OF OCTOBER NUMBER.